

R. GOSCINNY **Asterix** A. UDERZO

Asterix and the **Big Fight**

Written by René GOSCINNY

Illustrated by Albert UDERZO



GOSCINNY AND UDERZO
PRESENT
An Asterix Adventure

ASTERIX AND THE BIG FIGHT

Written by RENÉ GOSCINNY *and Illustrated by* ALBERT UDERZO

Translated by Anthea Bell *and* Derek Hockridge



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AN ORION CHILDREN'S EBOOK

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Revised edition and English translation © 2004 Hachette Livre

Original title: *Le Combat des chefs*

This eBook first published in 2014 by Orion Children's Books.

Exclusive licensee: Orion Publishing Group

Translators: Anthea Bell and Derek Hockridge

Typography: Bryony Newhouse

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This revised edition first published in 2004 by Orion Books Ltd,

Orion House, 5 Upper Saint Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9EA

An Hachette UK company

This ebook edition has been created using CircularFLO from Circular Software

A CIP record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 978 1 4440 1314 6

www.asterix.com

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THE YEAR IS 50 BC. GAUL IS ENTIRELY OCCUPIED BY THE ROMANS. WELL, NOT ENTIRELY ... ONE SMALL VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS STILL HOLDS OUT AGAINST THE INVADERS. AND LIFE IS NOT EASY FOR THE ROMAN LEGIONARIES WHO GARRISON THE FORTIFIED CAMPS OF TOTORUM, AQUARIUM, LAUDANUM AND COMPENDIUM ...



ASTERIX, THE HERO OF THESE ADVENTURES. A SHREWD, CUNNING LITTLE WARRIOR, ALL PERILOUS MISSIONS ARE IMMEDIATELY ENTRUSTED TO HIM. ASTERIX GETS HIS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH FROM THE MAGIC POTION BREWED BY THE DRUID GETAFIX . . .



OBELIX, ASTERIX'S INSEPARABLE FRIEND. A MENHIR DELIVERY MAN BY TRADE, ADDICTED TO WILD BOAR. OBELIX IS ALWAYS READY TO DROP EVERYTHING AND GO OFF ON A NEW ADVENTURE WITH ASTERIX - SO LONG AS THERE'S WILD BOAR TO EAT, AND PLENTY OF FIGHTING. HIS CONSTANT COMPANION IS DOGMATIX, THE ONLY KNOWN CANINE ECOLOGIST, WHO HOWLS WITH DESPAIR WHEN A TREE IS CUT DOWN.



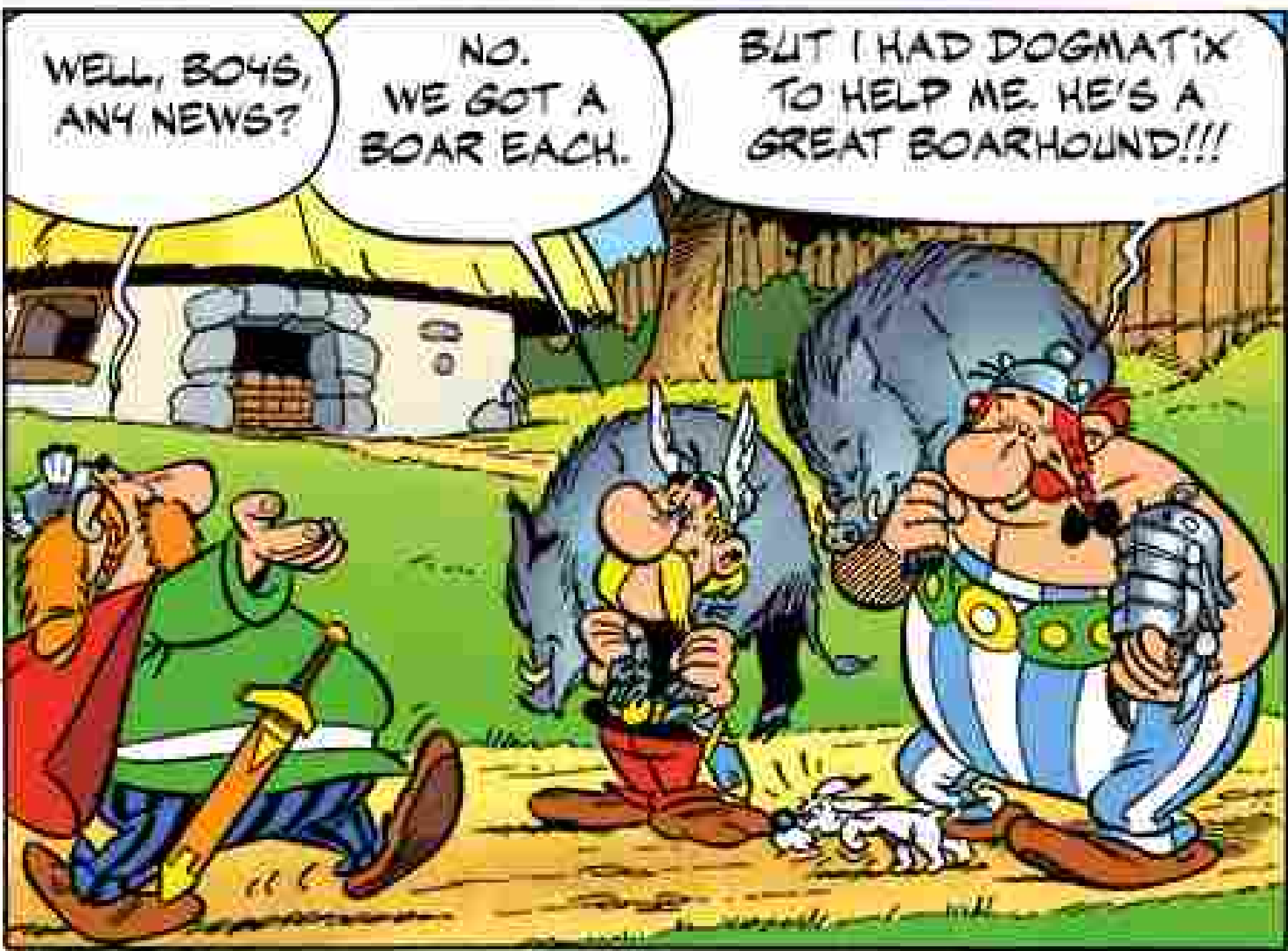
GETAFIX, THE VENERABLE VILLAGE DRUID, GATHERS MISTLETOE AND BREWS MAGIC POTIONS. HIS SPECIALITY IS THE POTION WHICH GIVES THE DRINKER SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. BUT GETAFIX ALSO HAS OTHER RECIPES UP HIS SLEEVE . . .

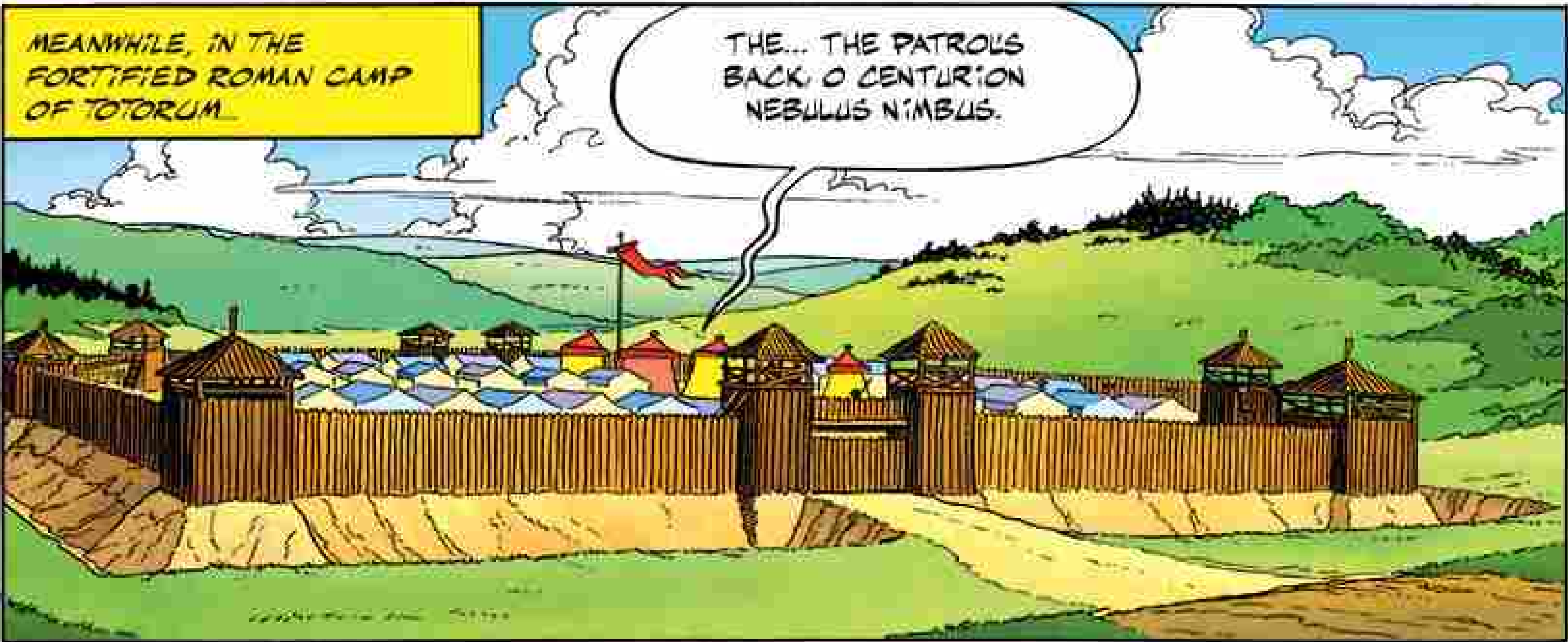


CACOFONIX, THE BARD. OPINION IS DIVIDED AS TO HIS MUSICAL GIFTS. CACOFONIX THINKS HE'S A GENIUS. EVERYONE ELSE THINKS HE'S UNSPEAKABLE. BUT SO LONG AS HE DOESN'T SPEAK, LET ALONE SING, EVERYBODY LIKES HIM . . .



FINALLY, VITALSTATISTIX, THE CHIEF OF THE TRIBE. MAJESTIC, BRAVE AND HOT-TEMPERED, THE OLD WARRIOR IS RESPECTED BY HIS MEN AND FEARED BY HIS ENEMIES. VITALSTATISTIX HIMSELF HAS ONLY ONE FEAR, HE IS AFRAID THE SKY MAY FALL ON HIS HEAD TOMORROW. BUT AS HE ALWAYS SAYS, TOMORROW NEVER COMES.





MEANWHILE, IN THE
FORTIFIED ROMAN CAMP
OF TOTURUM...

THE... THE PATROLS
BACK O CENTURION
NEBULLUS NIMBUS.

BY JUPITER!!!
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOU?



ER... WE MET
A COUPLE OF
GAULS...

AND THEY
DID HAVE A
DOG WITH
THEM...

AND TWO
BOARS!

SO THAT
MADE FIVE!



THESE GAULS
KEEP ON MAKING
FOOLS OF US!



WE HAVE TO FIND A
SOLUTION, O NEBULLUS
NIMBUS... IF THEY GET
TO HEAR OF THIS IN
ROME, YOU'LL BE
UNDER A CLOUD!



SO WHAT DO YOU
SUGGEST, O FELONIUS
CAUCUS, MY
RIGHT-HAND MAN?

WELL...



I'VE BEEN STATIONED
IN THIS COUNTRY A LONG
TIME. I KNOW THE GAULISH
CUSTOMS. AND THERE'S ONE
CUSTOM THAT MIGHT COME IN
VERY USEFUL... IT'S CALLED
THE BIG FIGHT.



**THE BIG
FIGHT?**

YES... WHEN THE CHIEF
OF A GAULISH TRIBE
WANTS TO BECOME THE
CHIEF OF TWO GAULISH
TRIBES, HE CHALLENGES
ANOTHER CHIEF TO SINGLE
COMBAT. THE LOSER AND HIS
WHOLE TRIBE SUBMIT
TO THE WINNER...



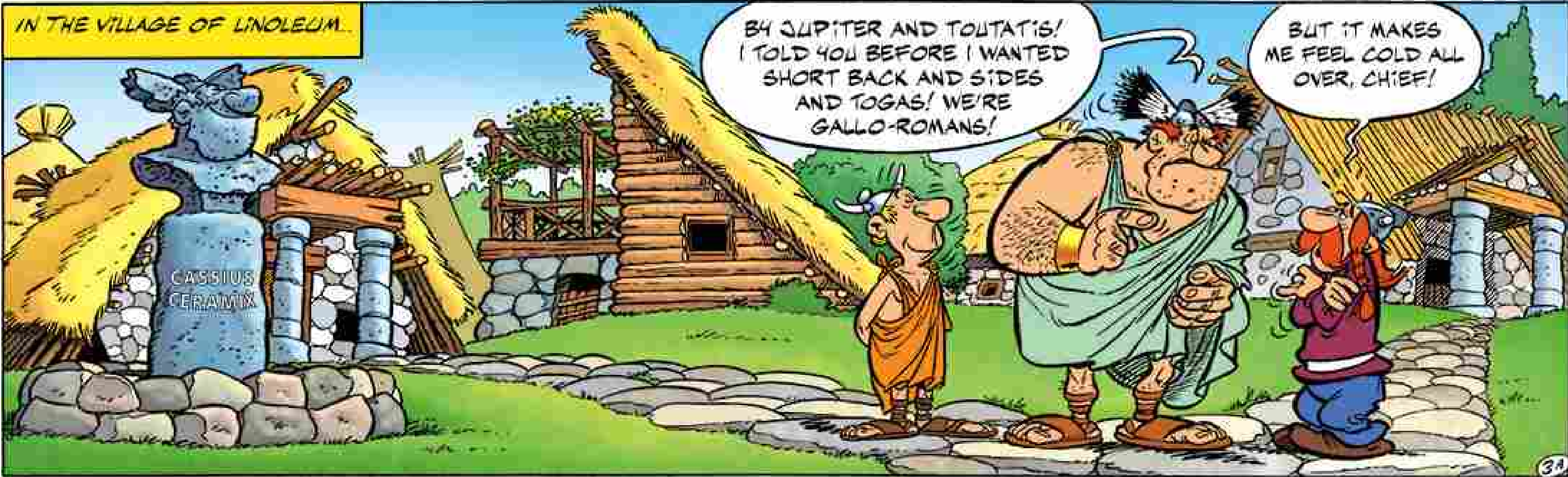
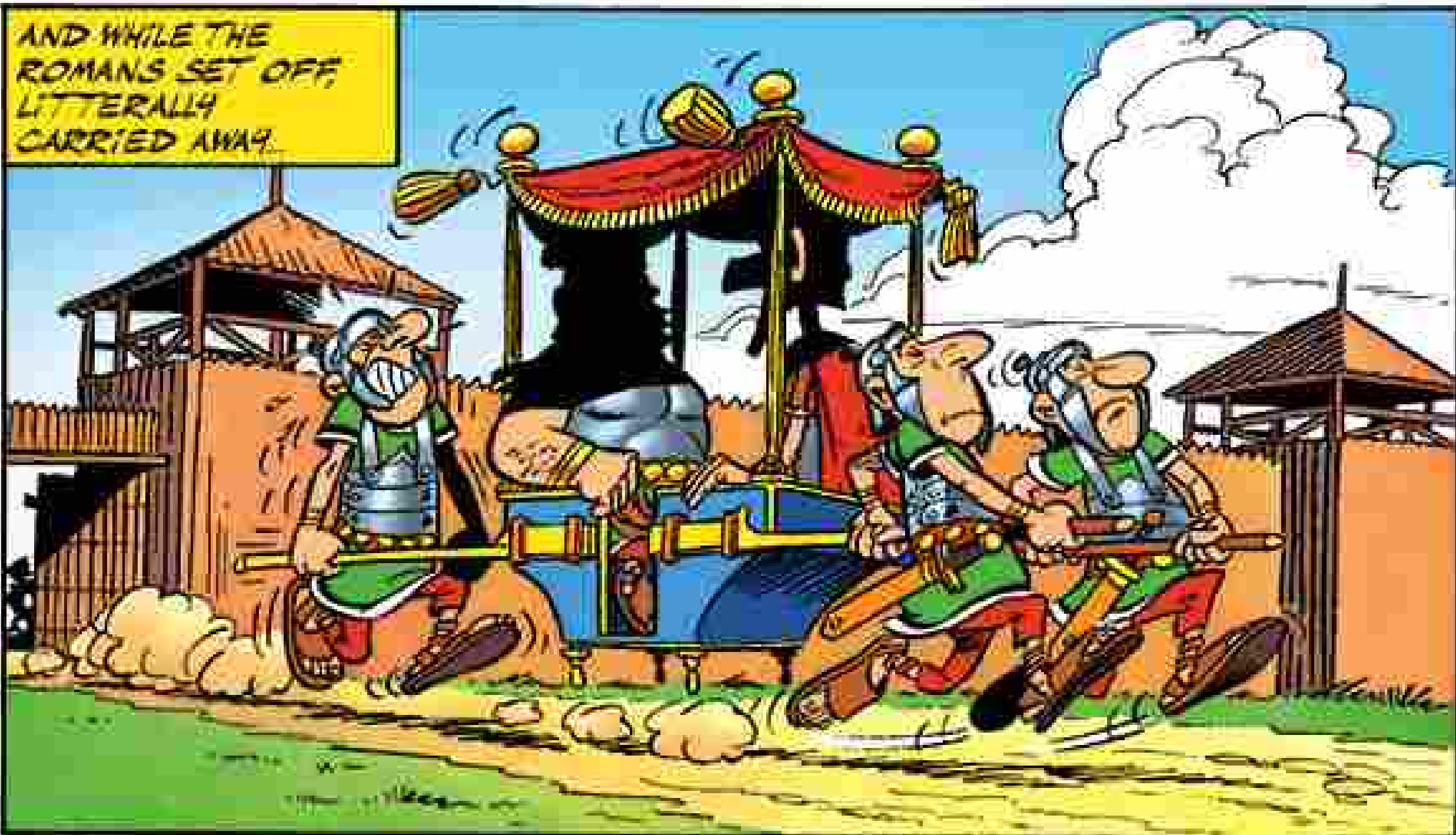
...IF BOTH CHIEFS ARE
EQUALLY STRONG, THEY HAVE
THE RIGHT TO THROW BALES OF
STRAW AT EACH OTHER. THUS THE
RESULT IS SAID TO BE DECIDED
BY A STRAW VOTE... IF WE HAD
A CHIEF WHO SUPPORTED
US IN COMMAND OF THOSE
INDOMITABLE GAULS,
THERE'D BE NO PROBLEM...

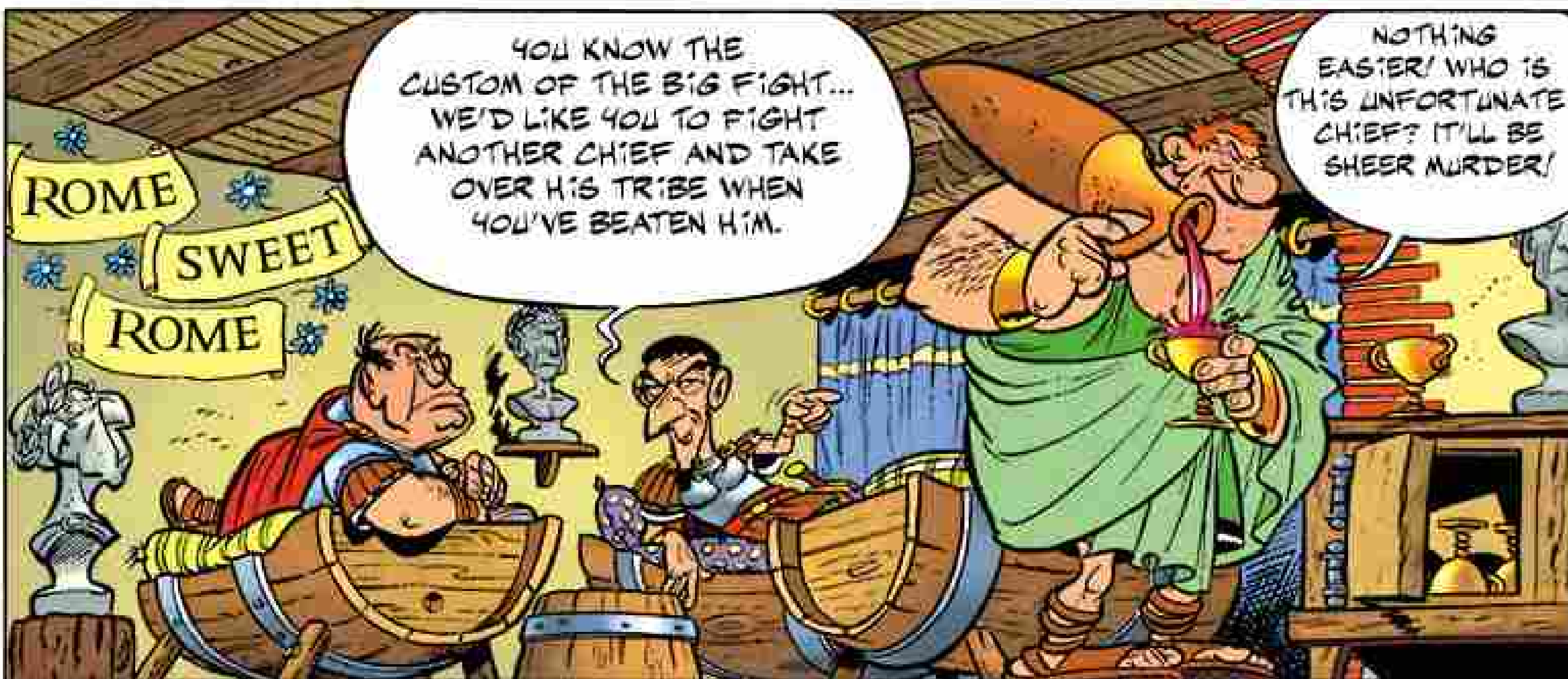
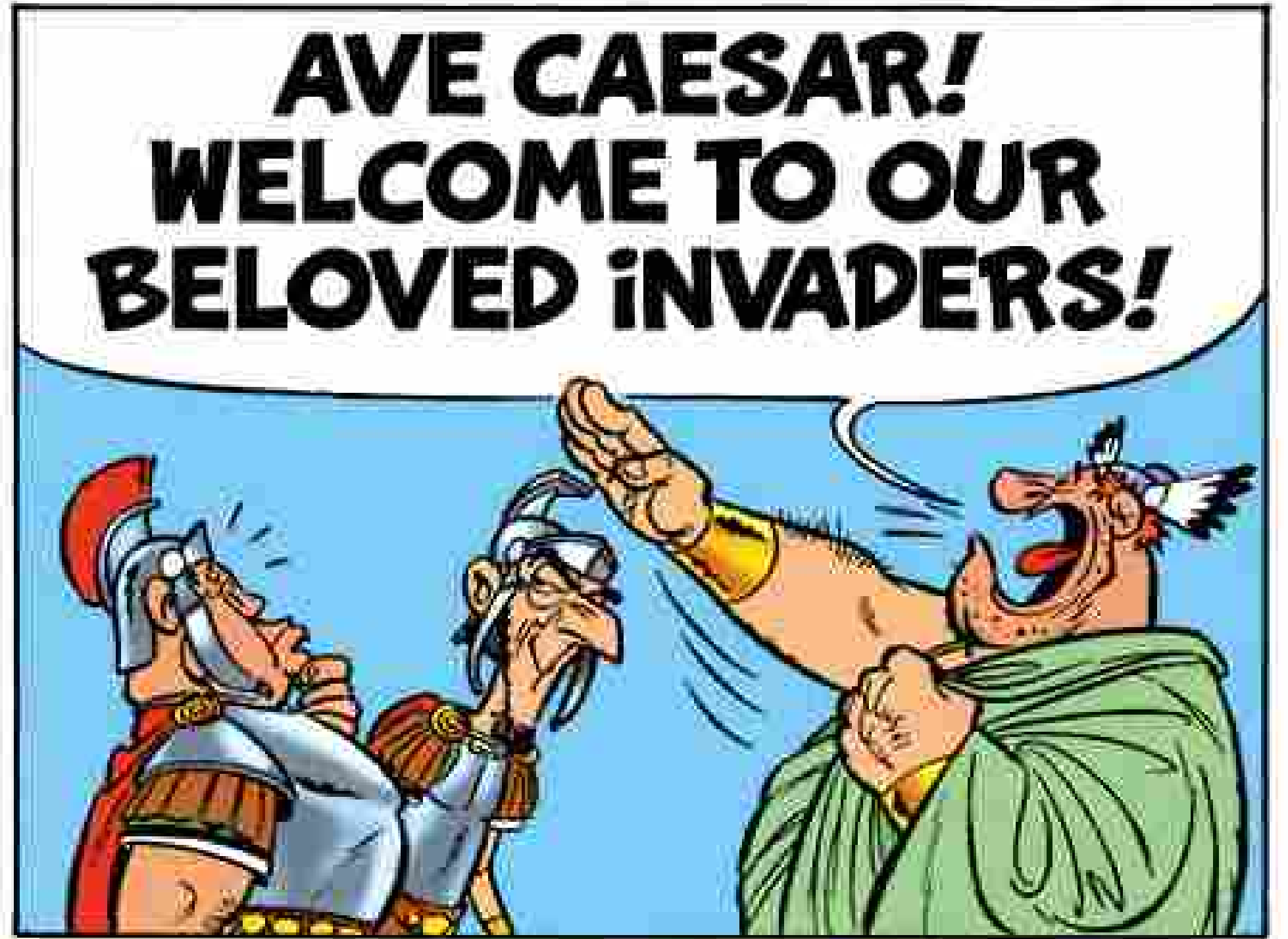
BONK! BIFF!

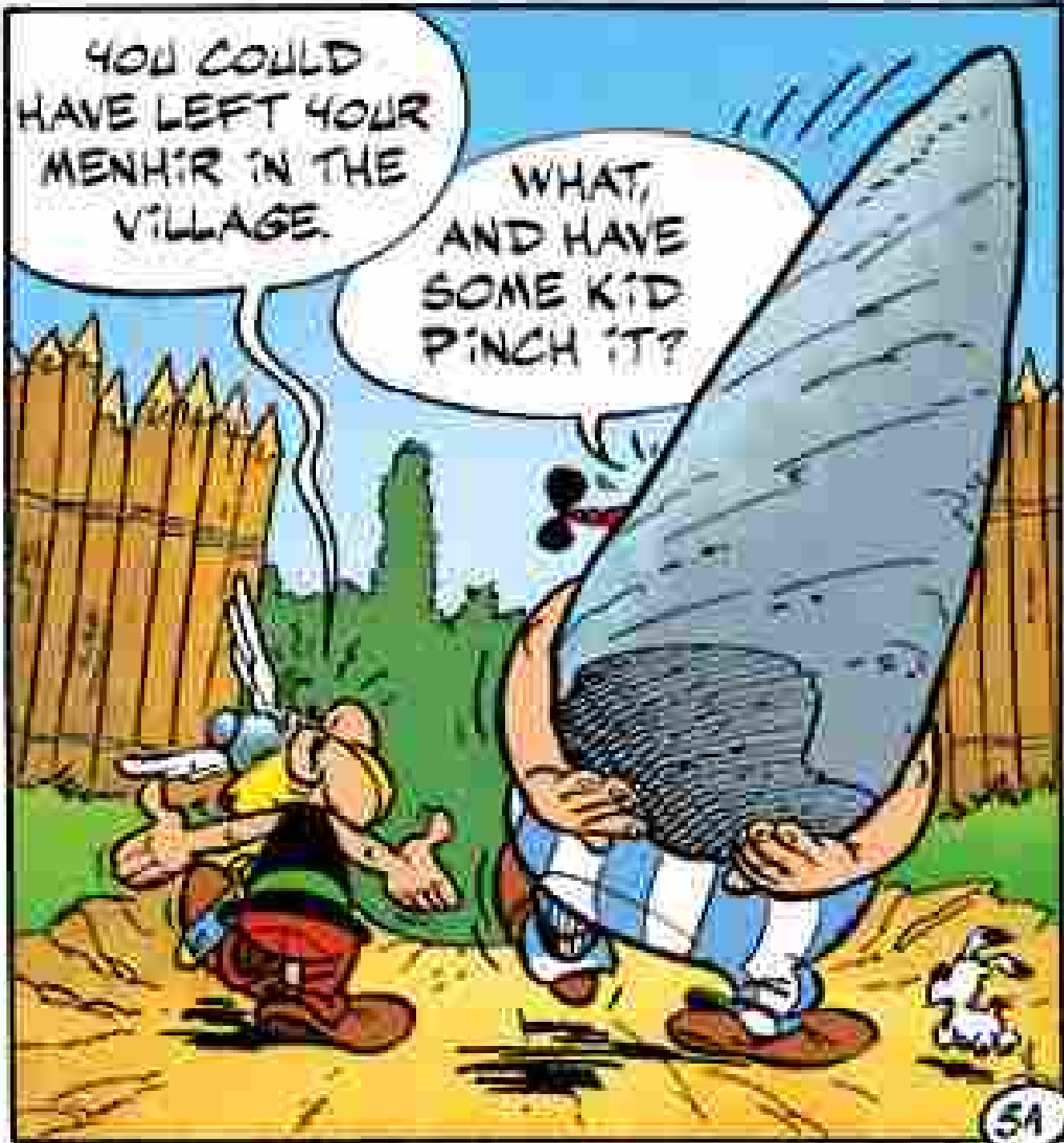


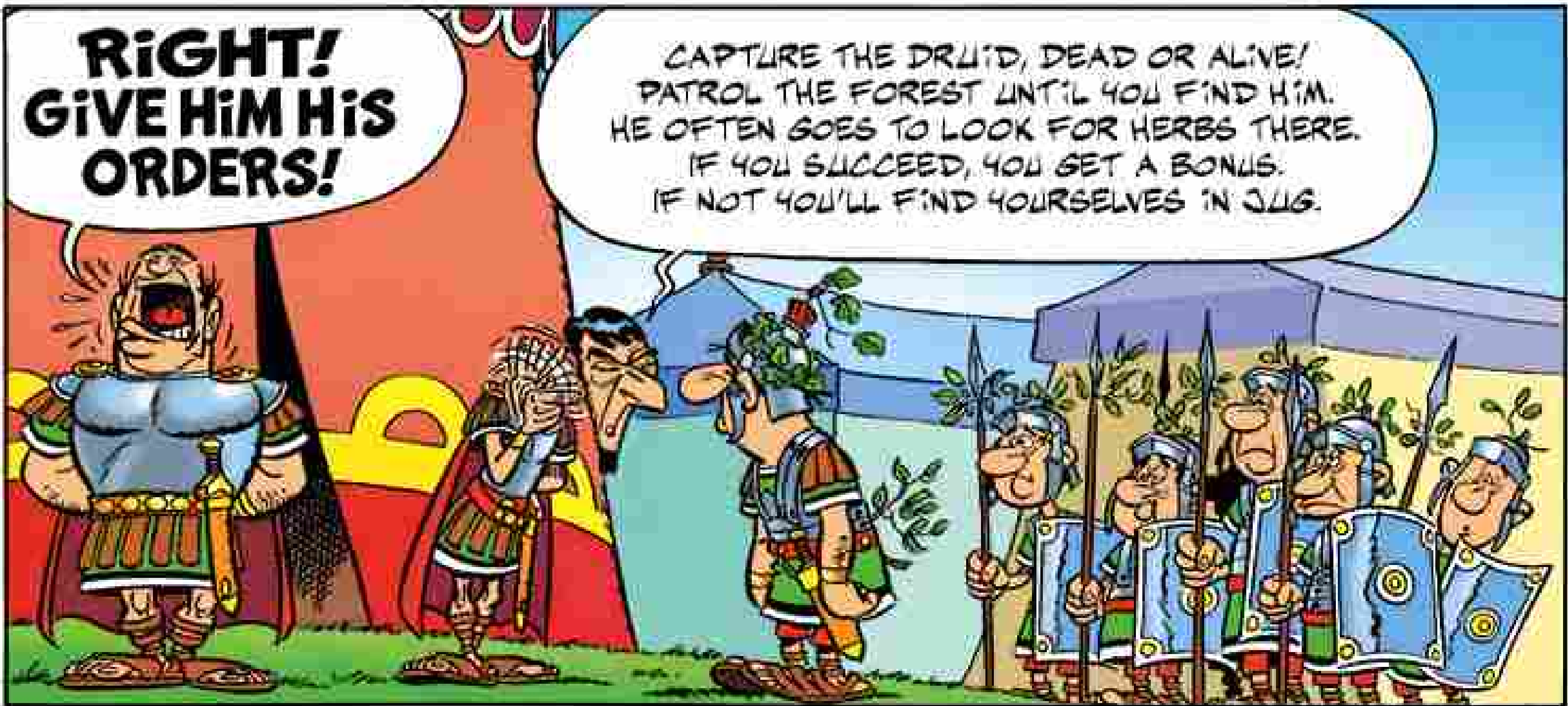
ALL RIGHT, BUT
WHAT CHIEF WOULD
BE CRAZY ENOUGH
TO CHALLENGE
THE TERRIBLE
VITALSTATISTIX?
HIS DRUID'S MAGIC
POTION MAKES
HIM INVINCIBLE!

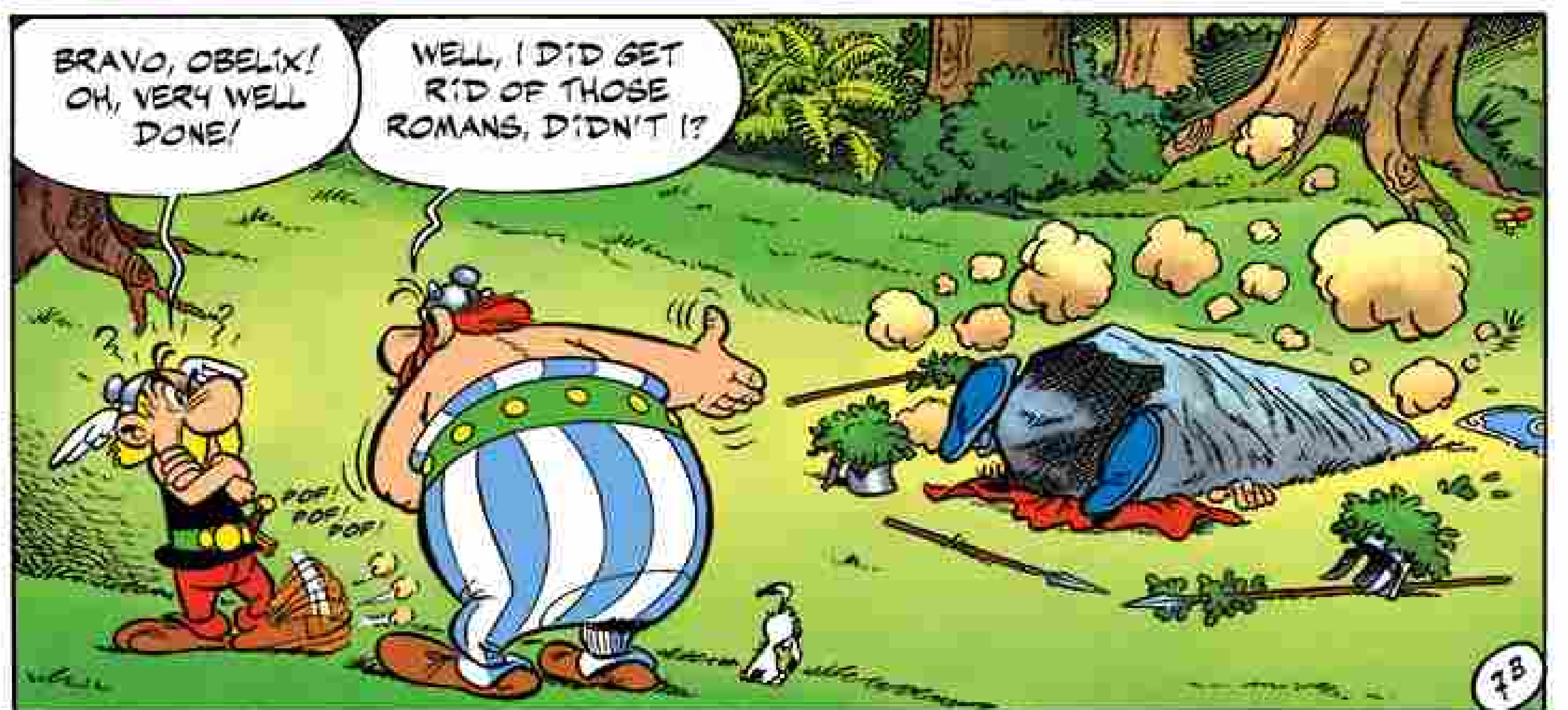
I KNOW JUST
THE MAN. HE'S A
COLLABORATOR,
AND AS COLOSSAL
AS THE
COLOSSEUM!

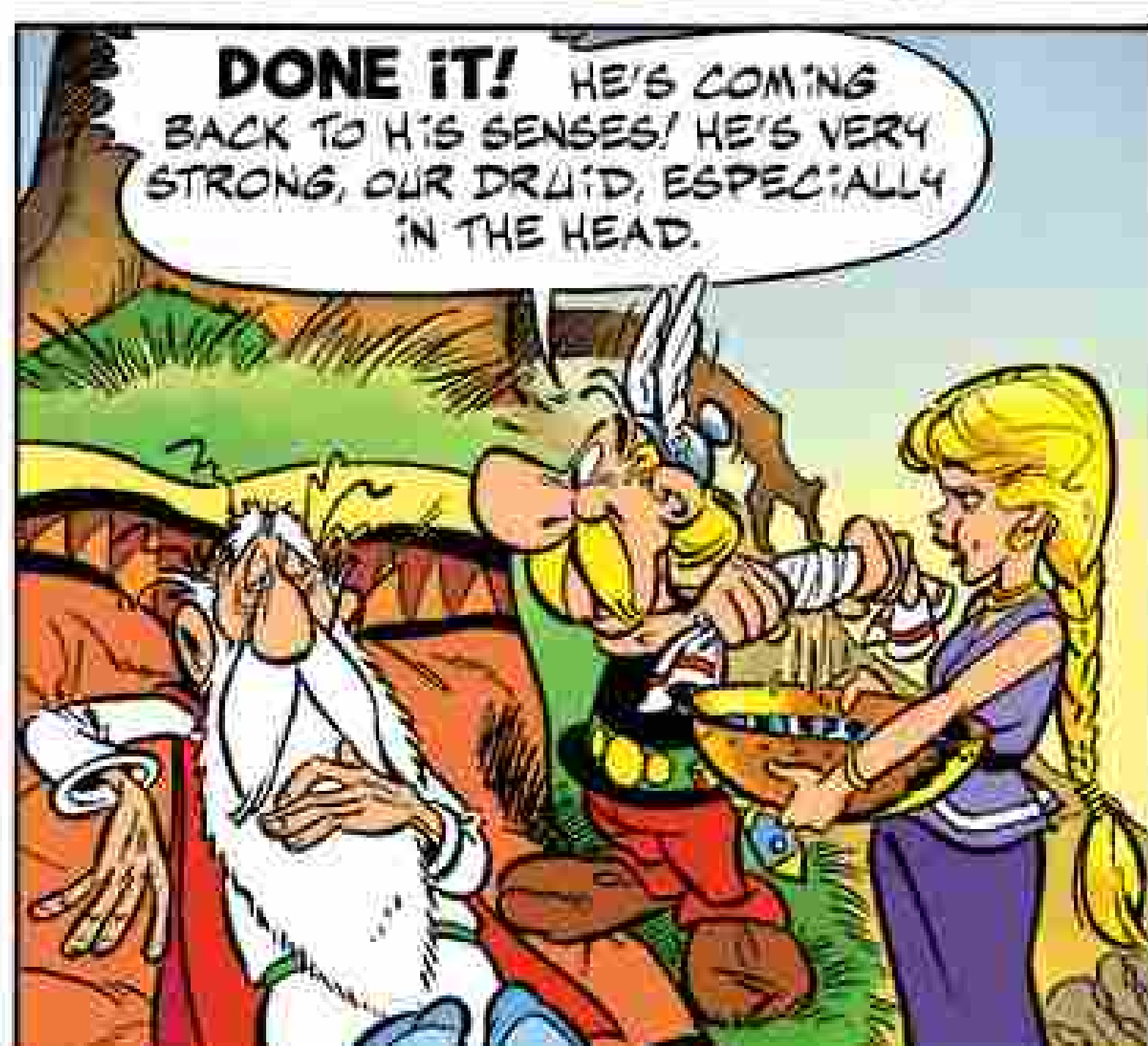
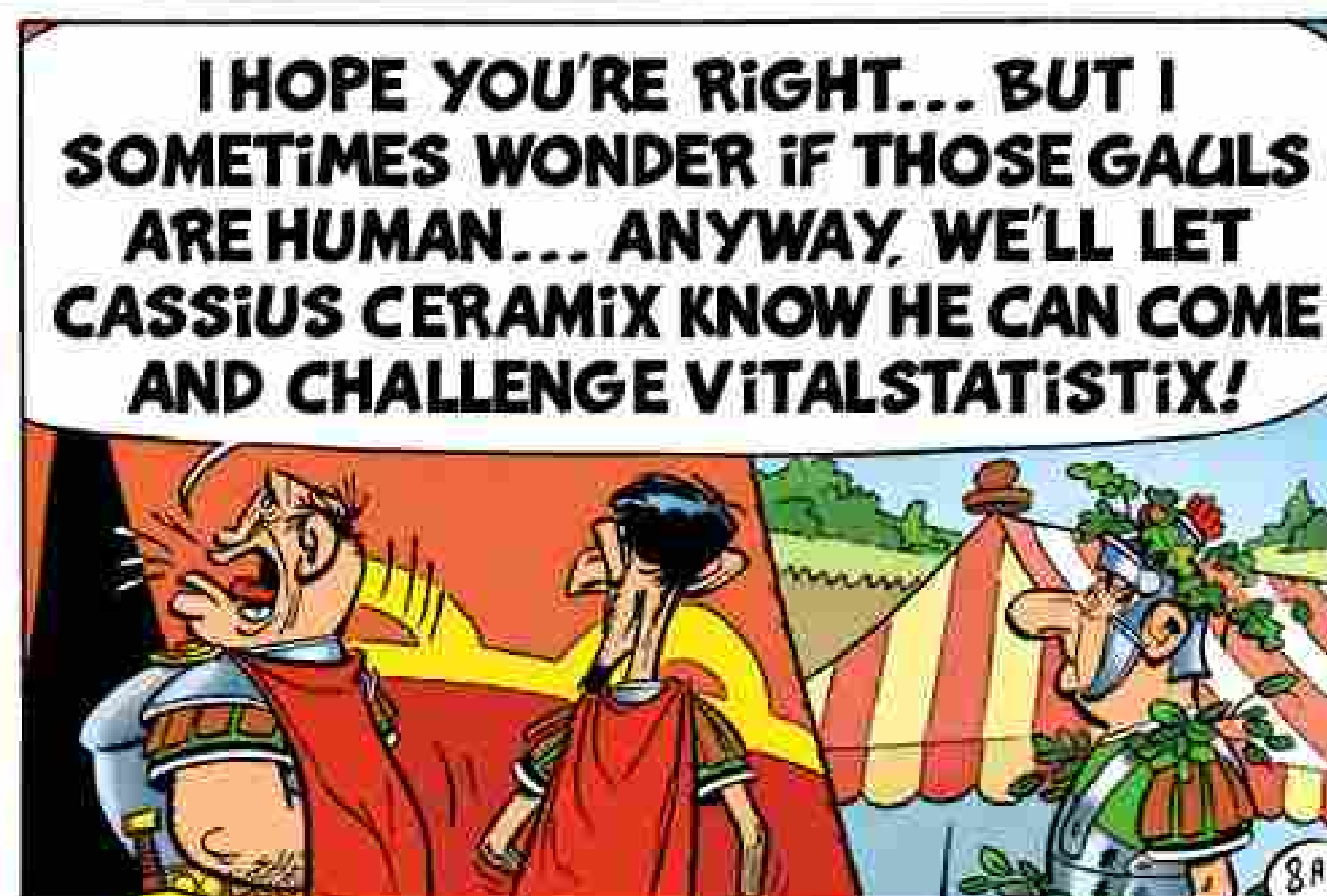


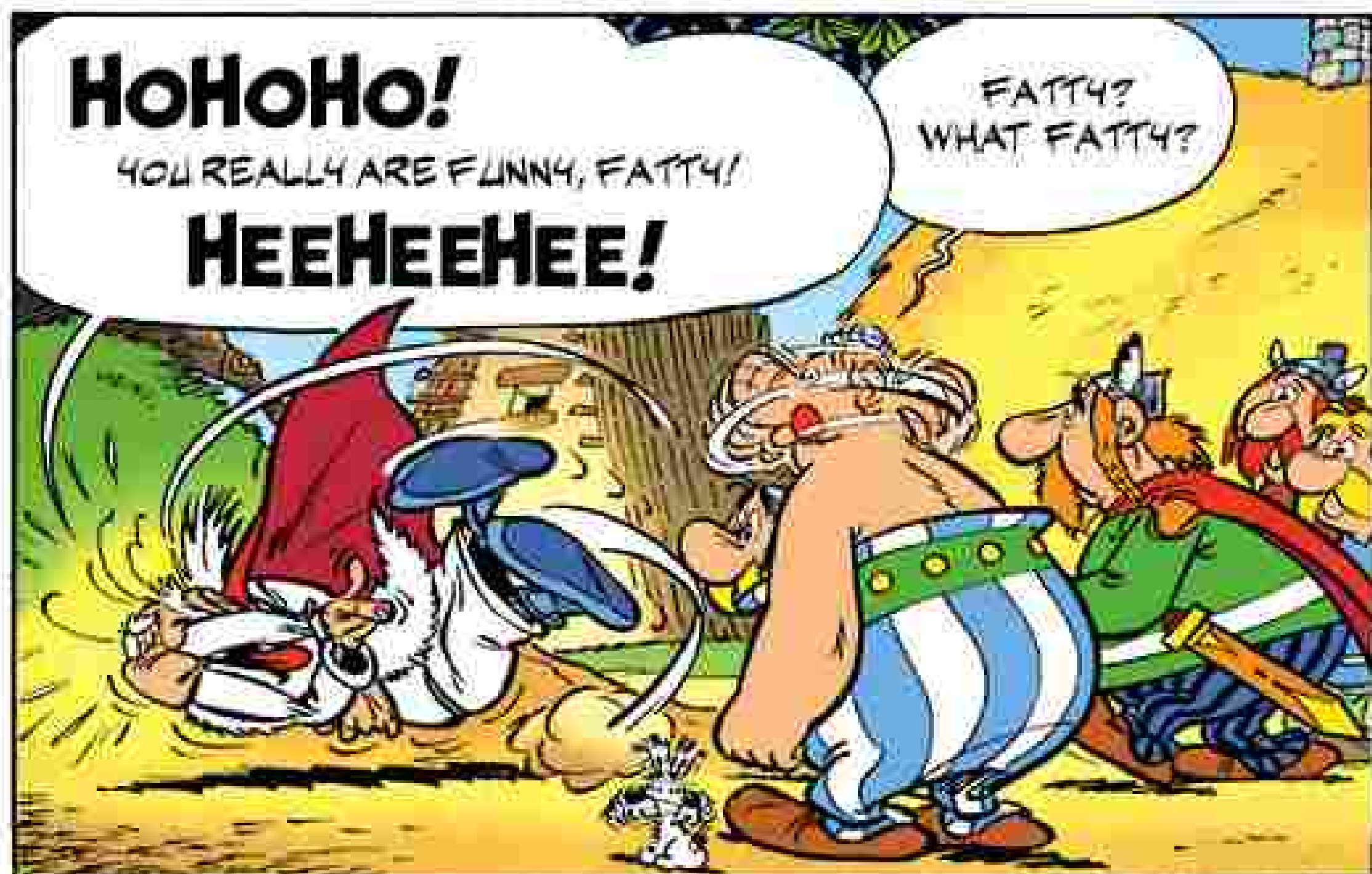


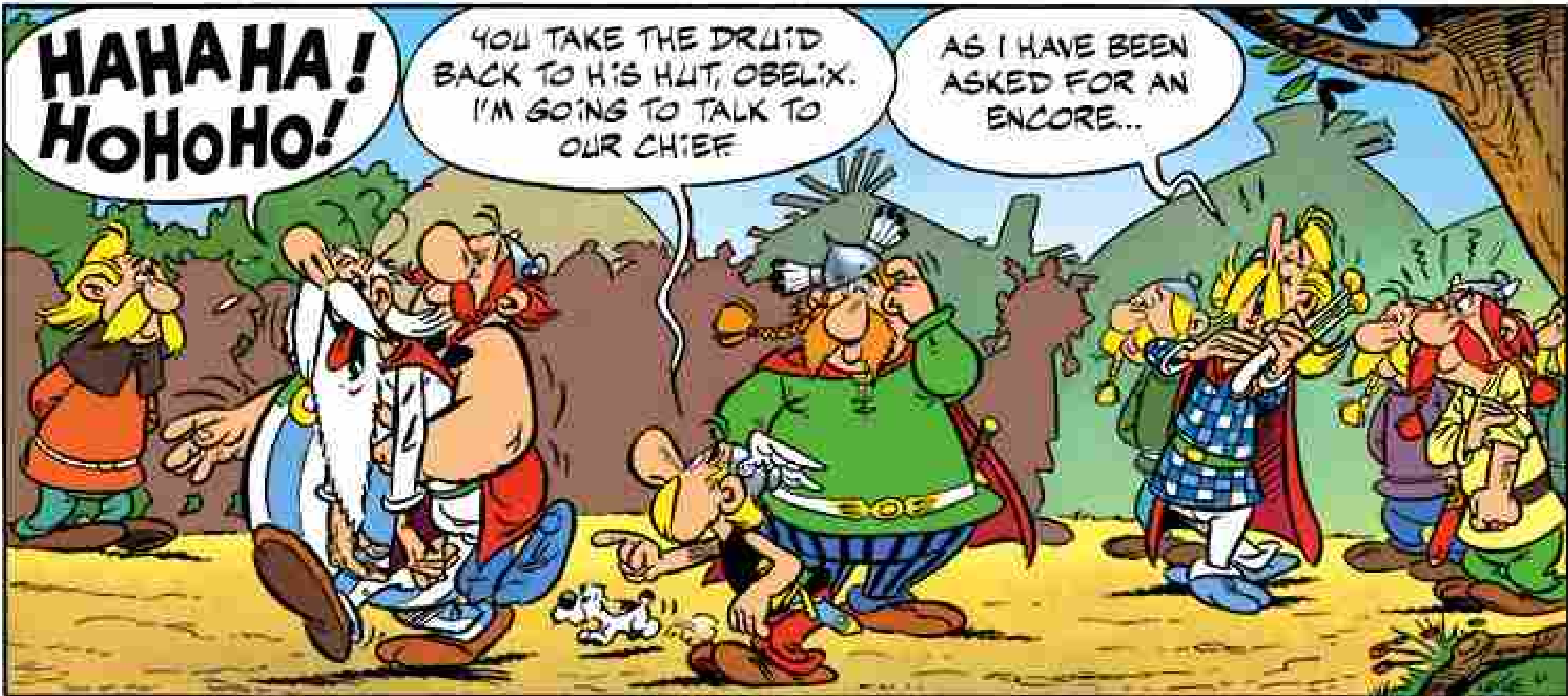






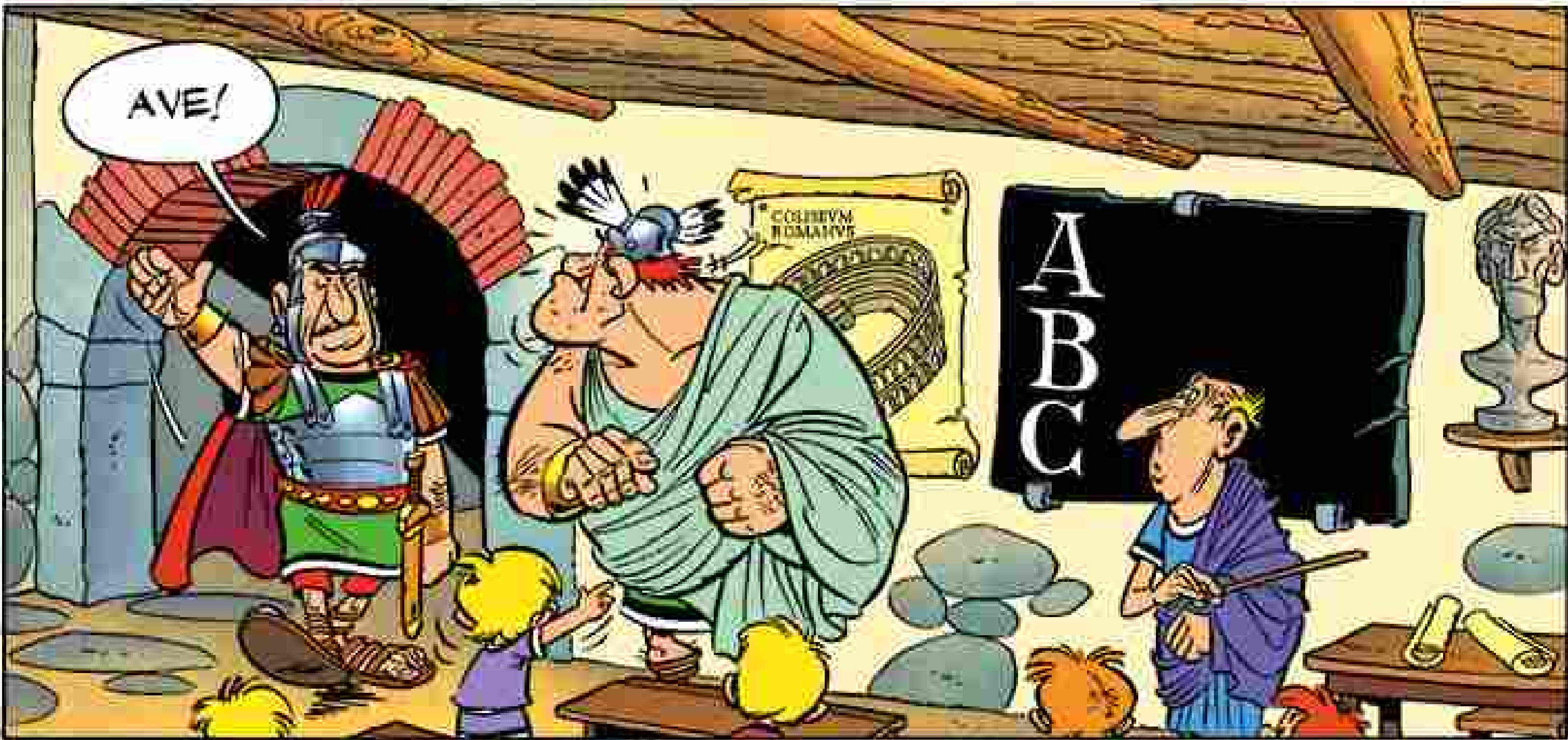


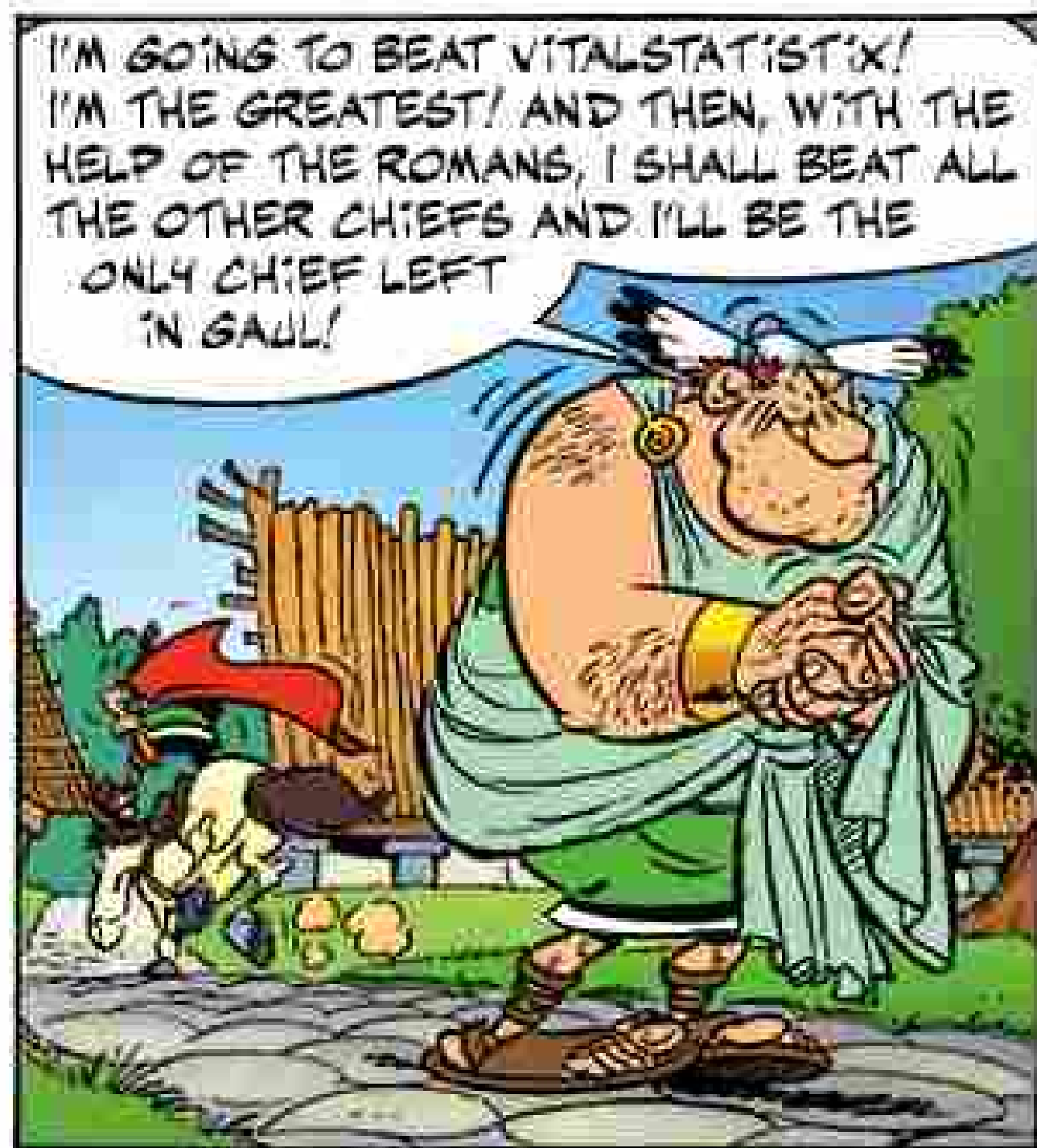


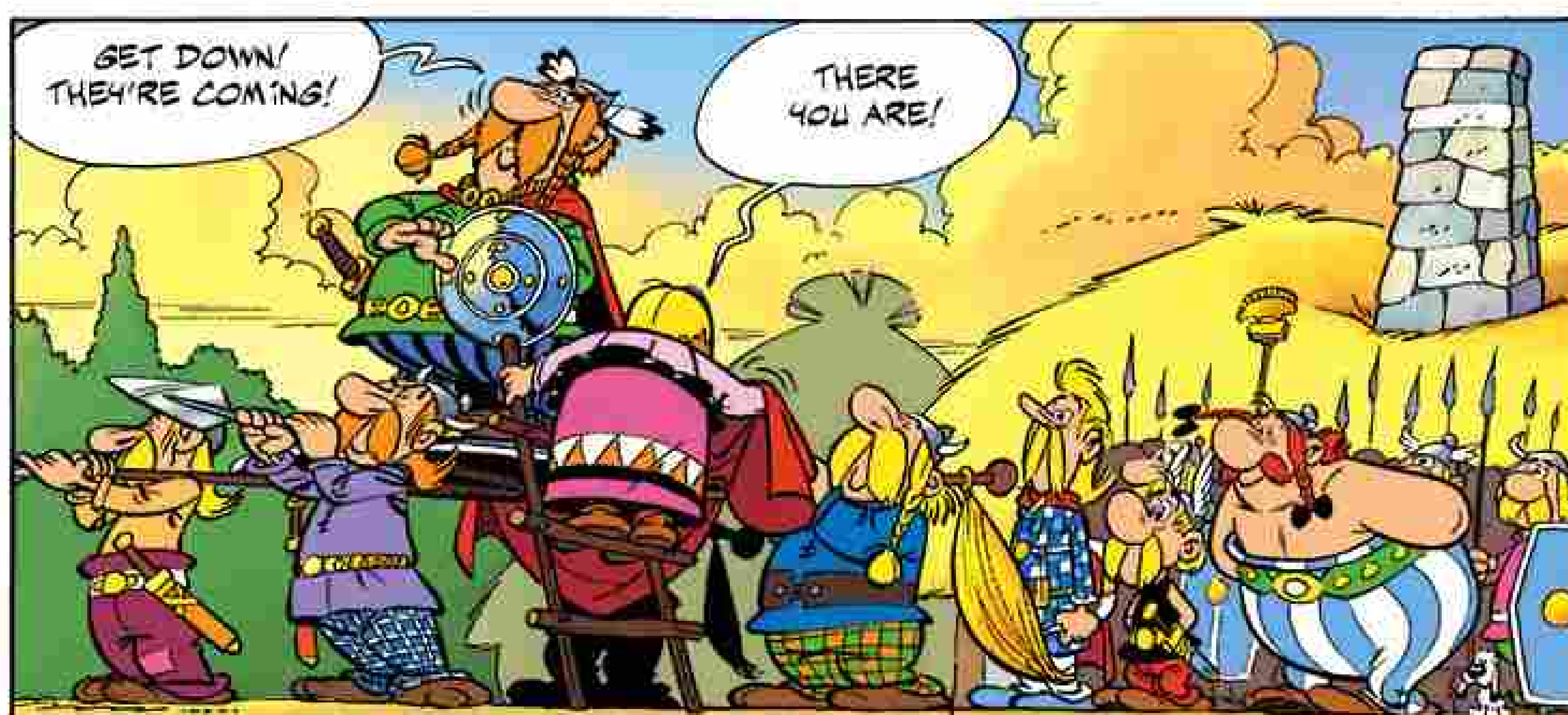


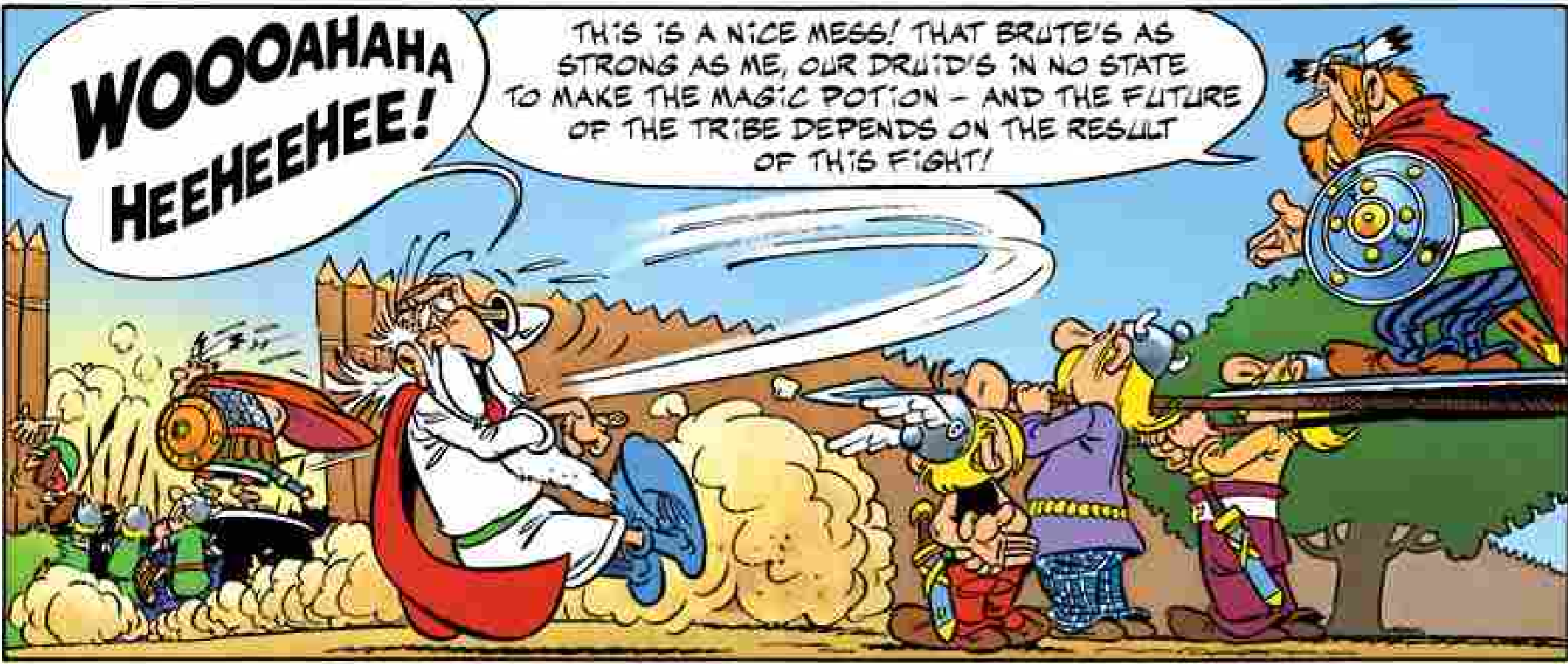


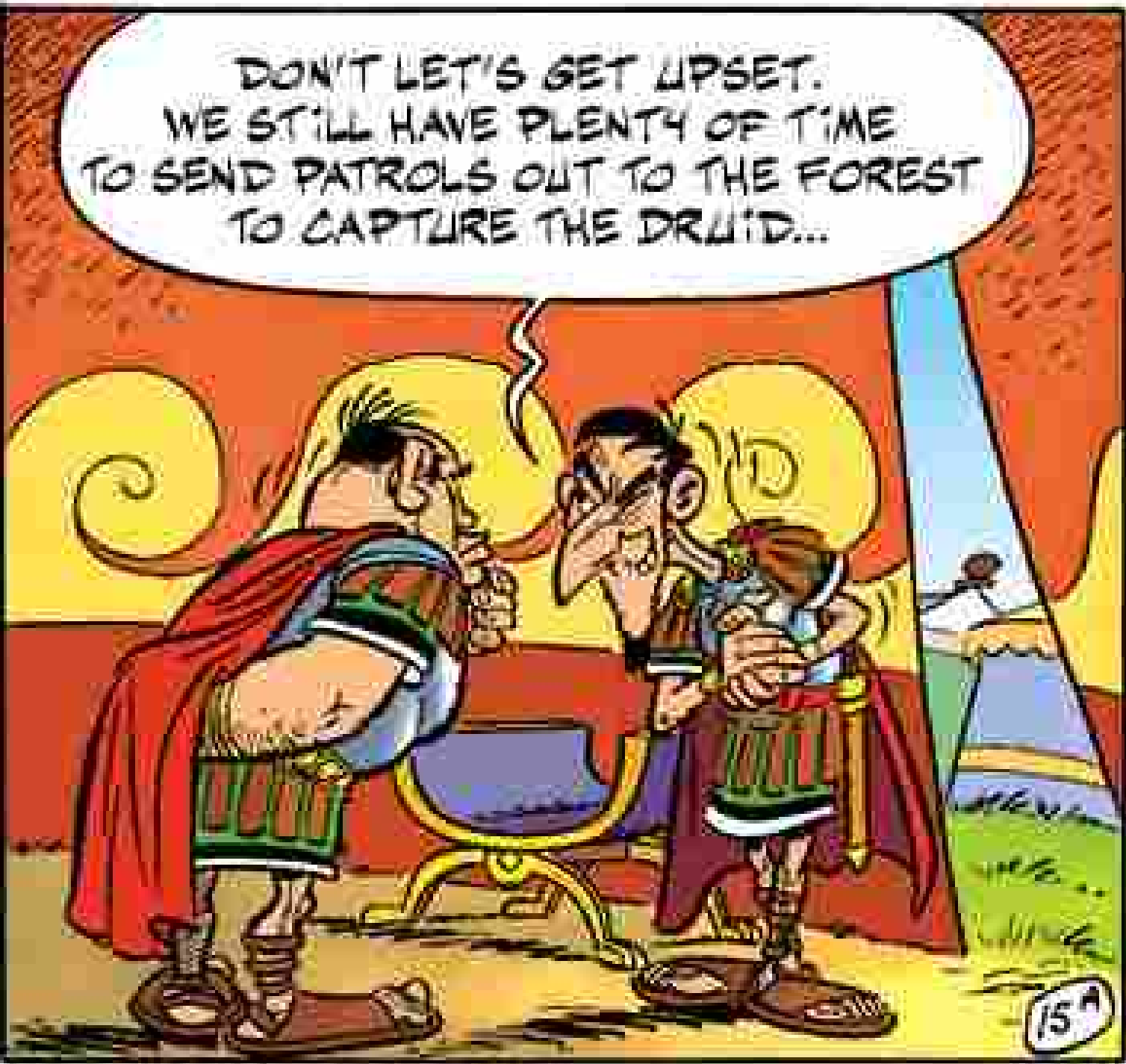
BUT THE SKIES ARE LOWERING. A ROMAN MESSENGER ARRIVES AT THE VILLAGE OF LINOLEUM.

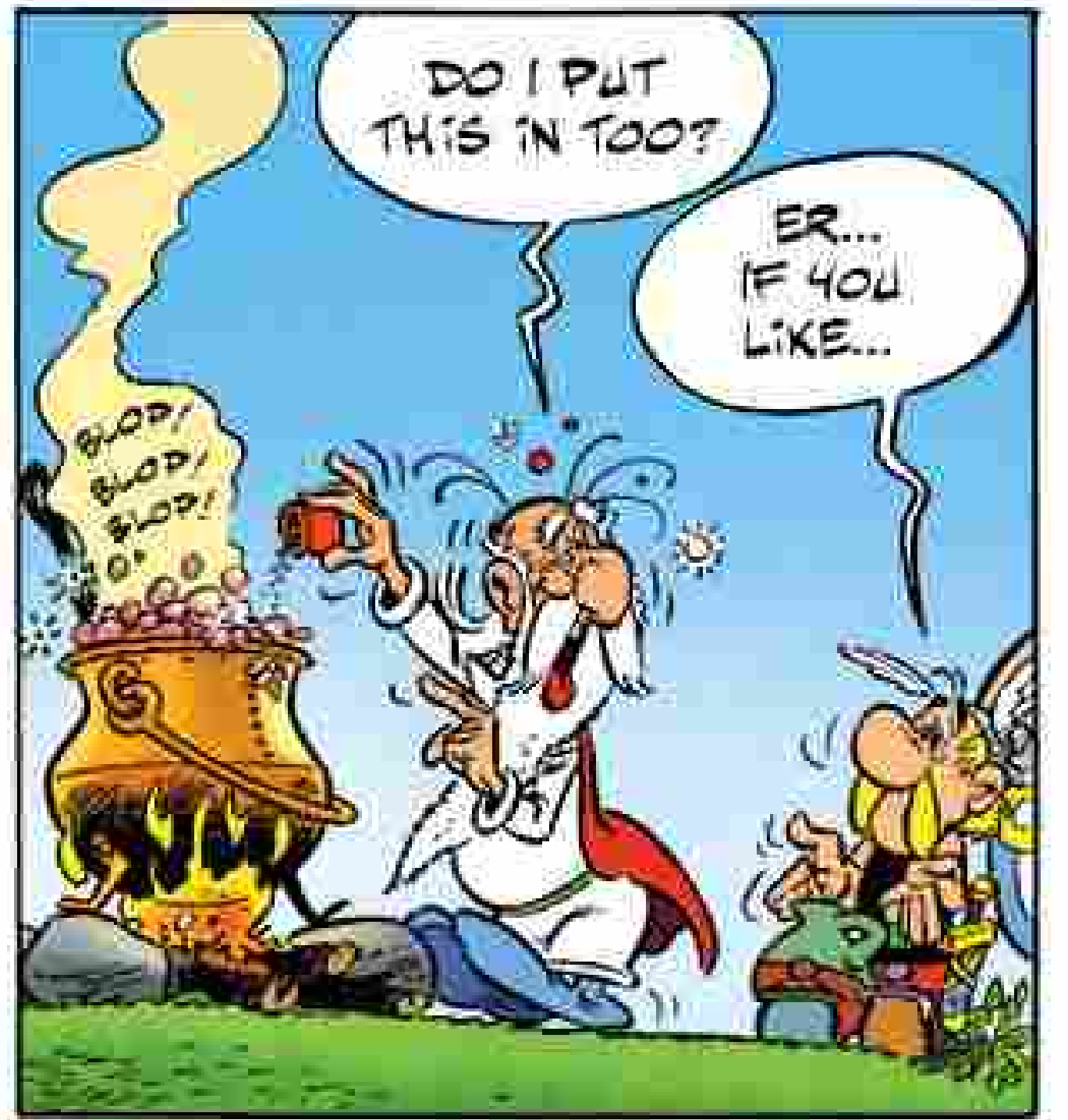






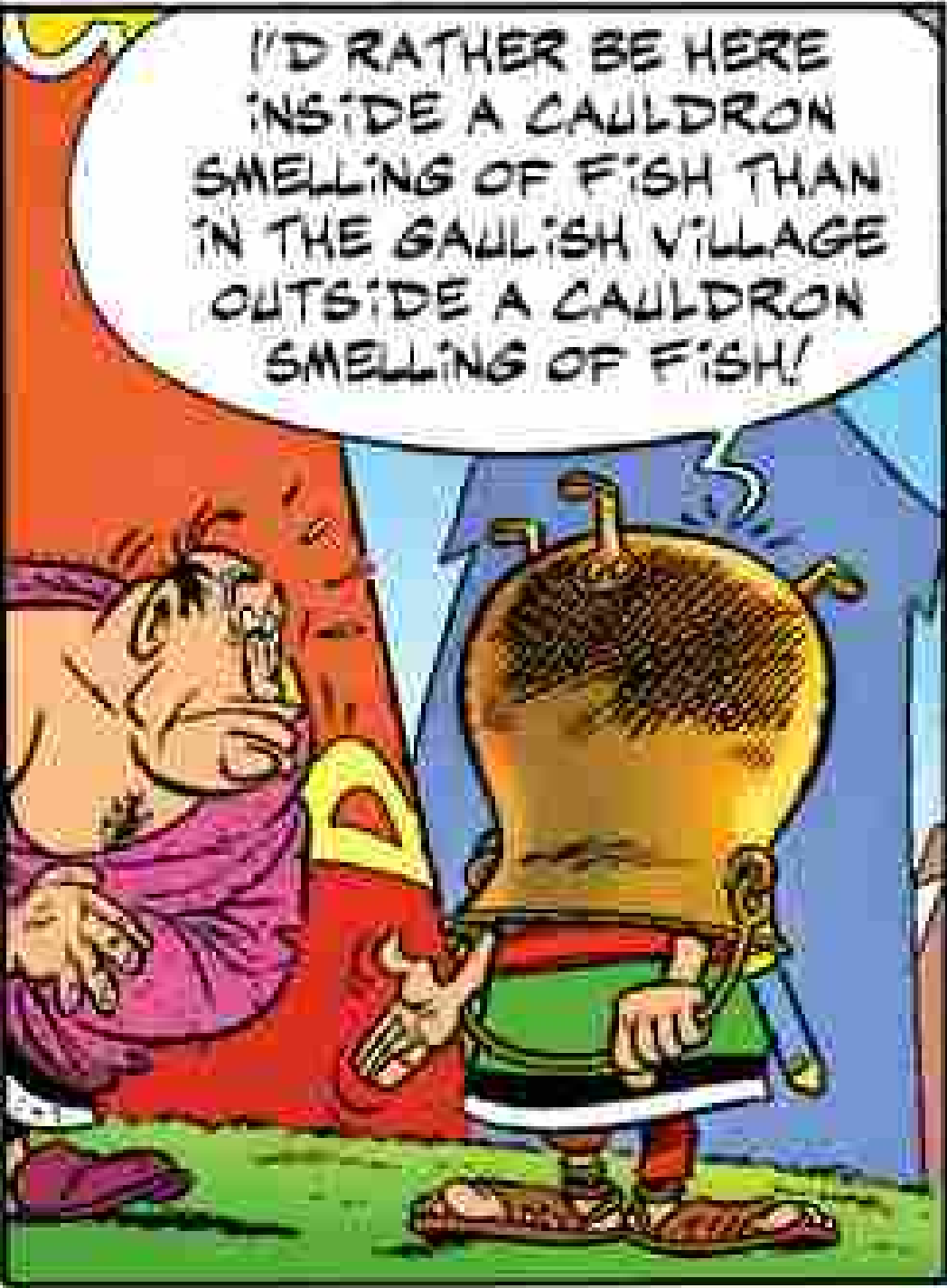
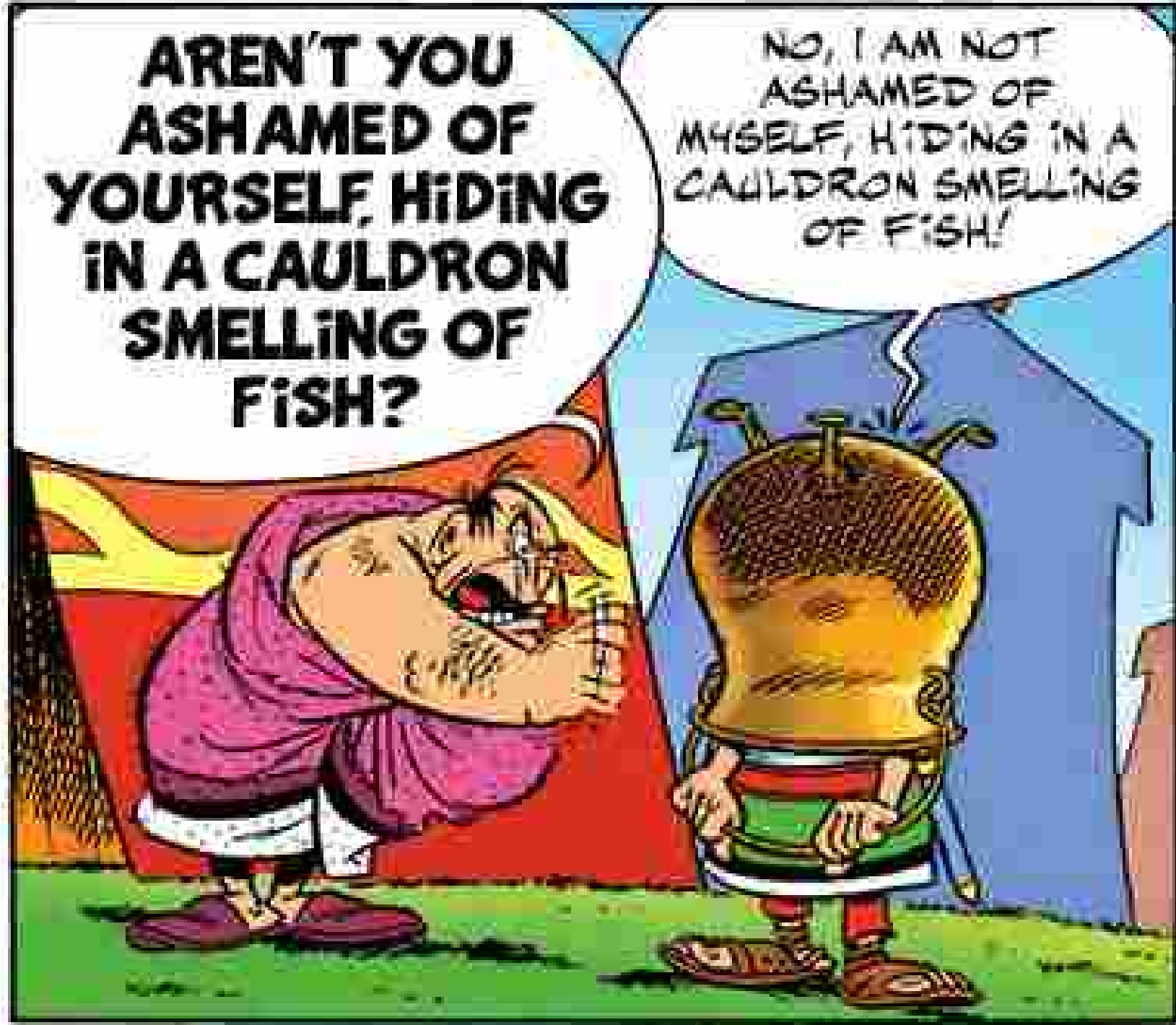


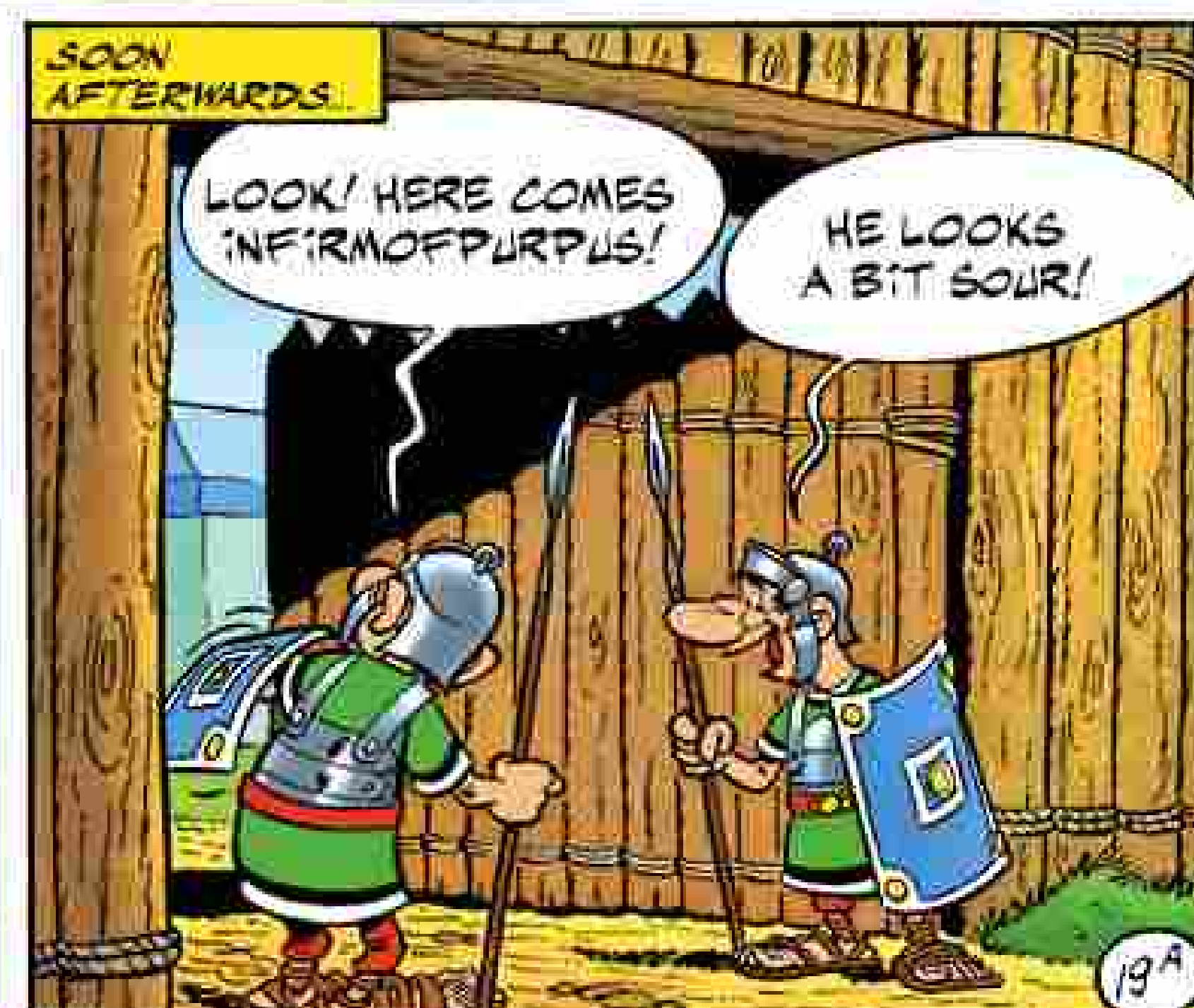
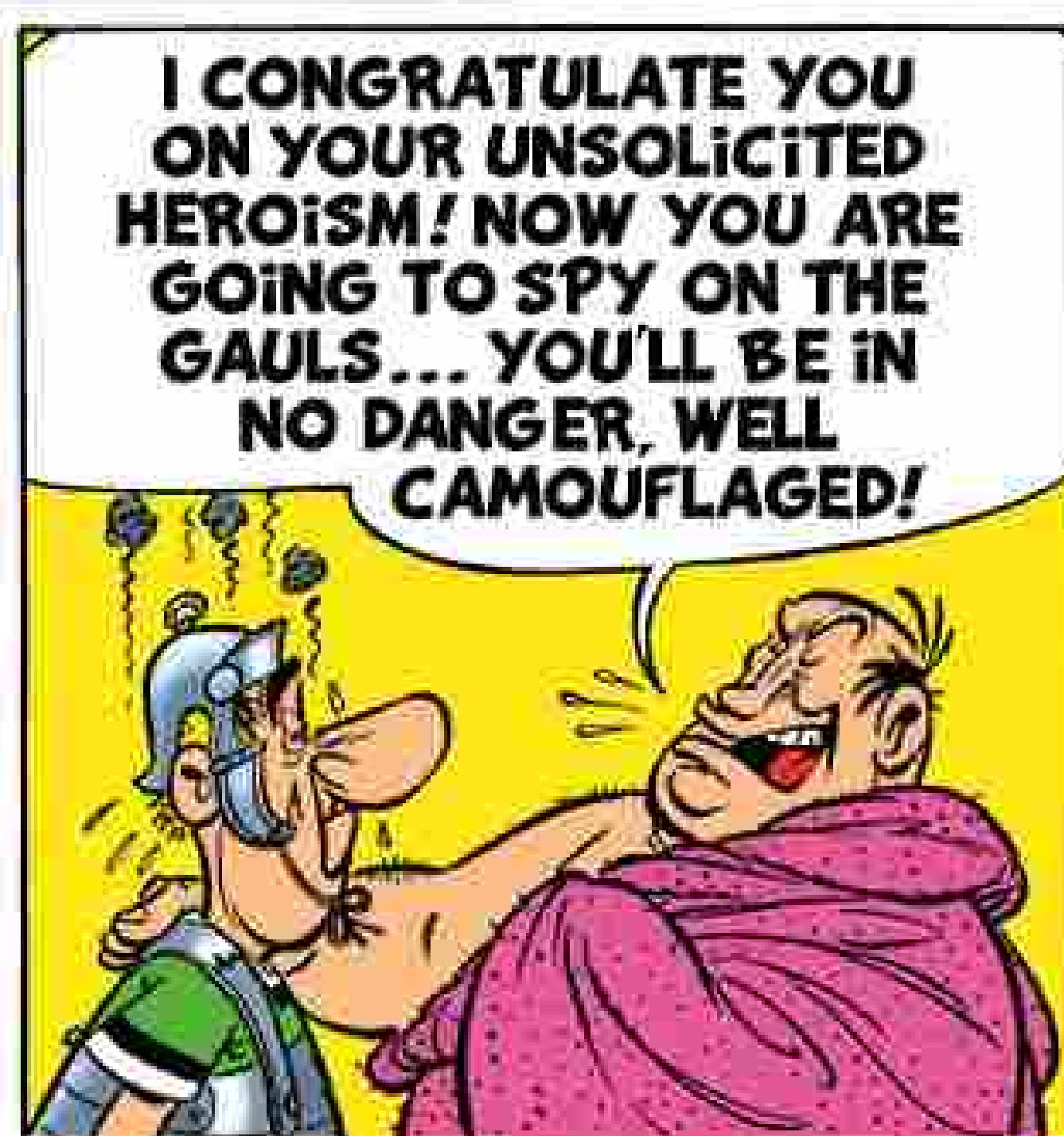




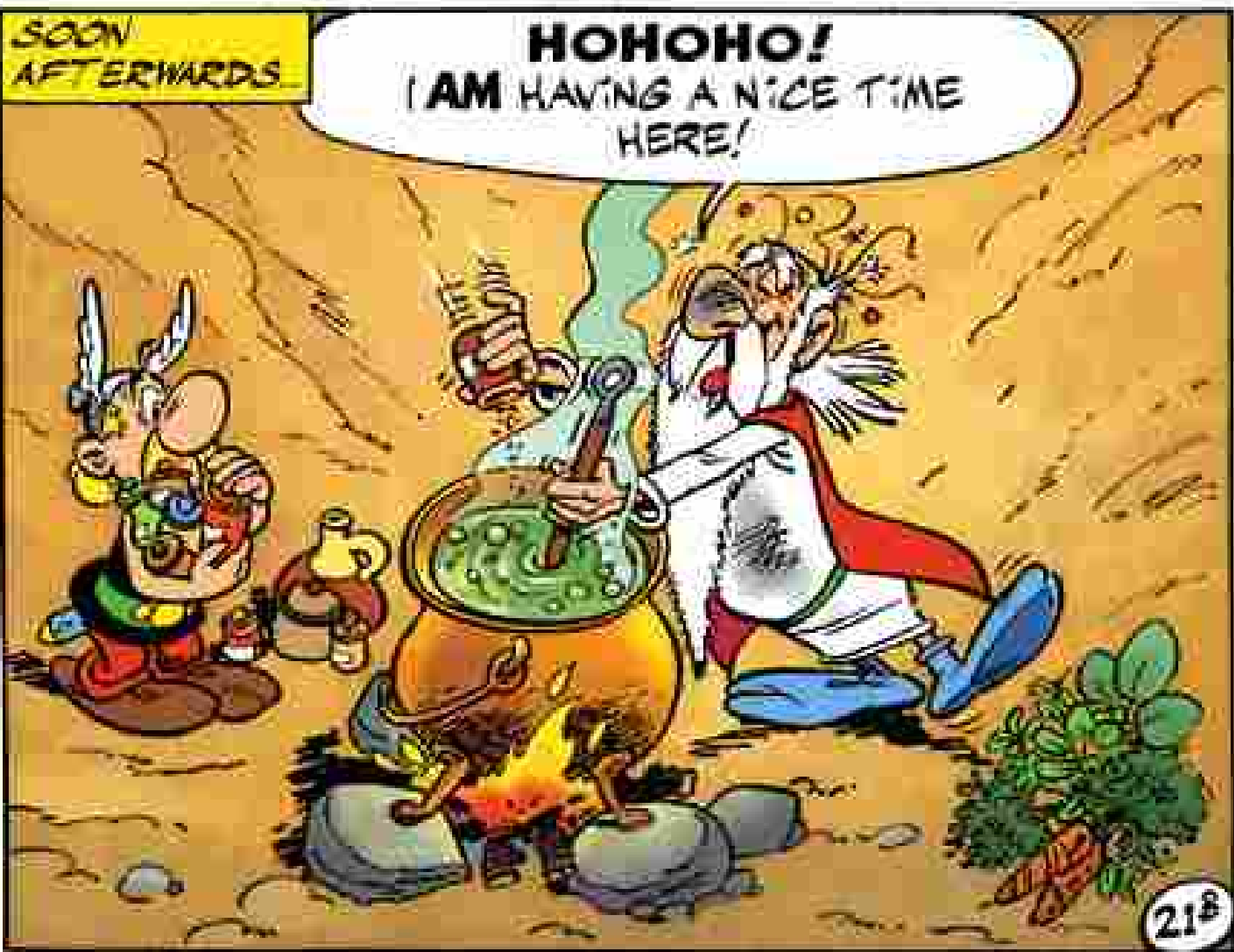
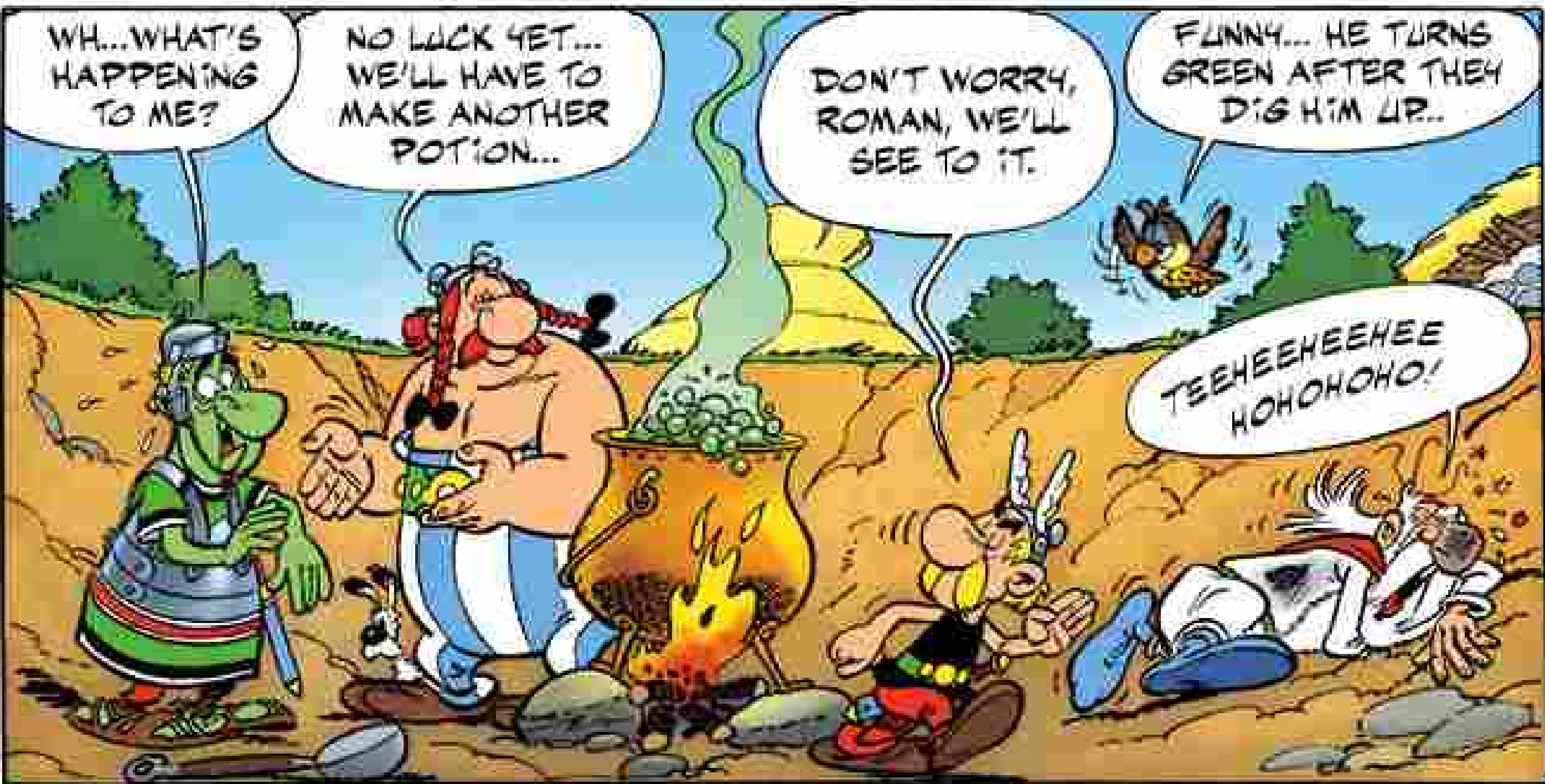
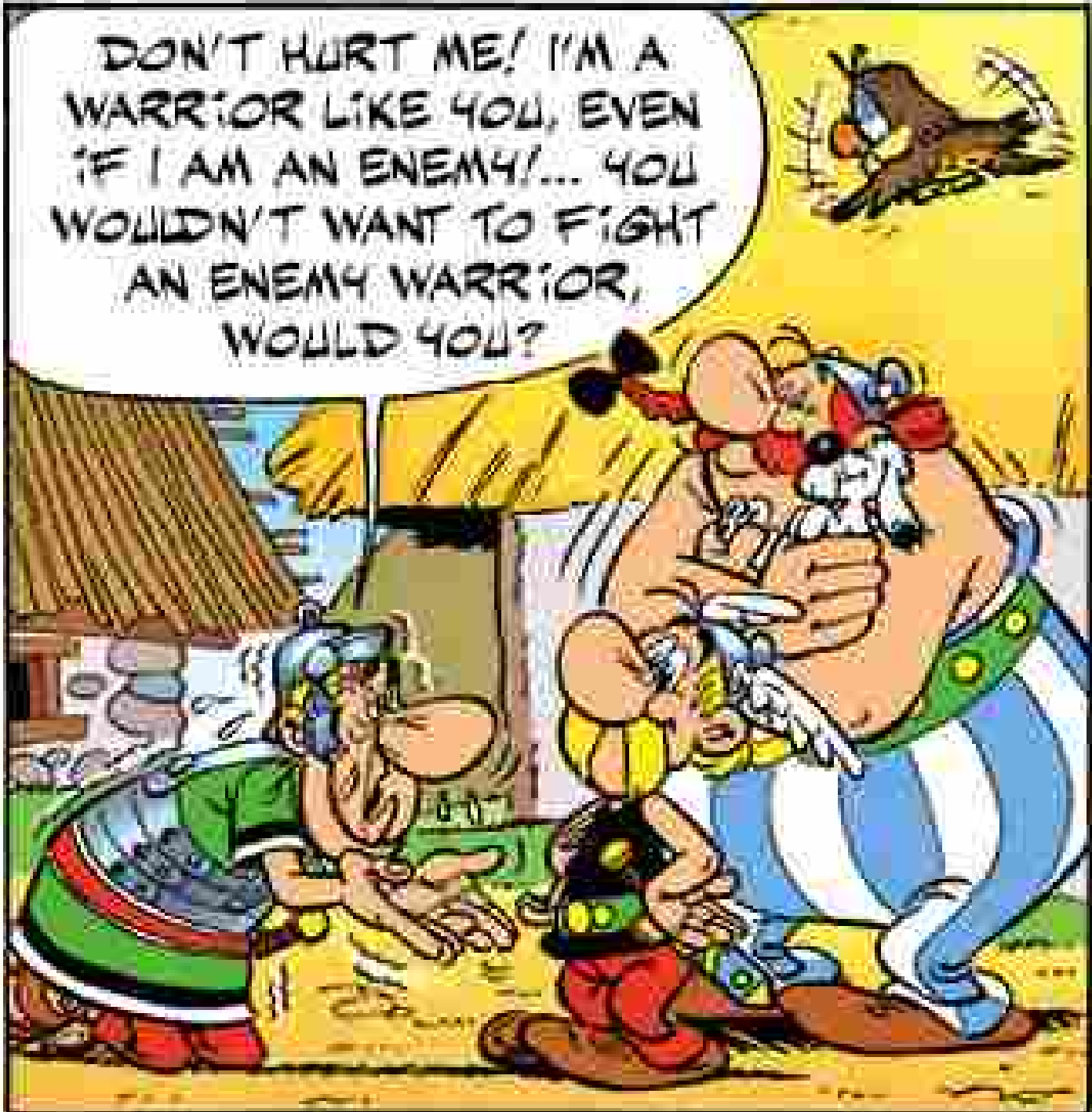
COMMANDED
BY LEGIONARY
INFIRMOPURPUS
A PATROL VENTURES
INTO THE FOREST...











THE UNHAPPY INFIRMOPURPUS DRINKS SEVERAL HIGHLY-COLOURED POTIONS ONE AFTER ANOTHER...



WITH RESULTS THAT



WHILE DECORATIVE...



ARE NOT...



THE RESULTS...



DESIRED!



STOP IT! I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I WANT MY SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEXION BACK THAT MADE ME SO MANY CONQUESTS ON THE APPIAN WAY!

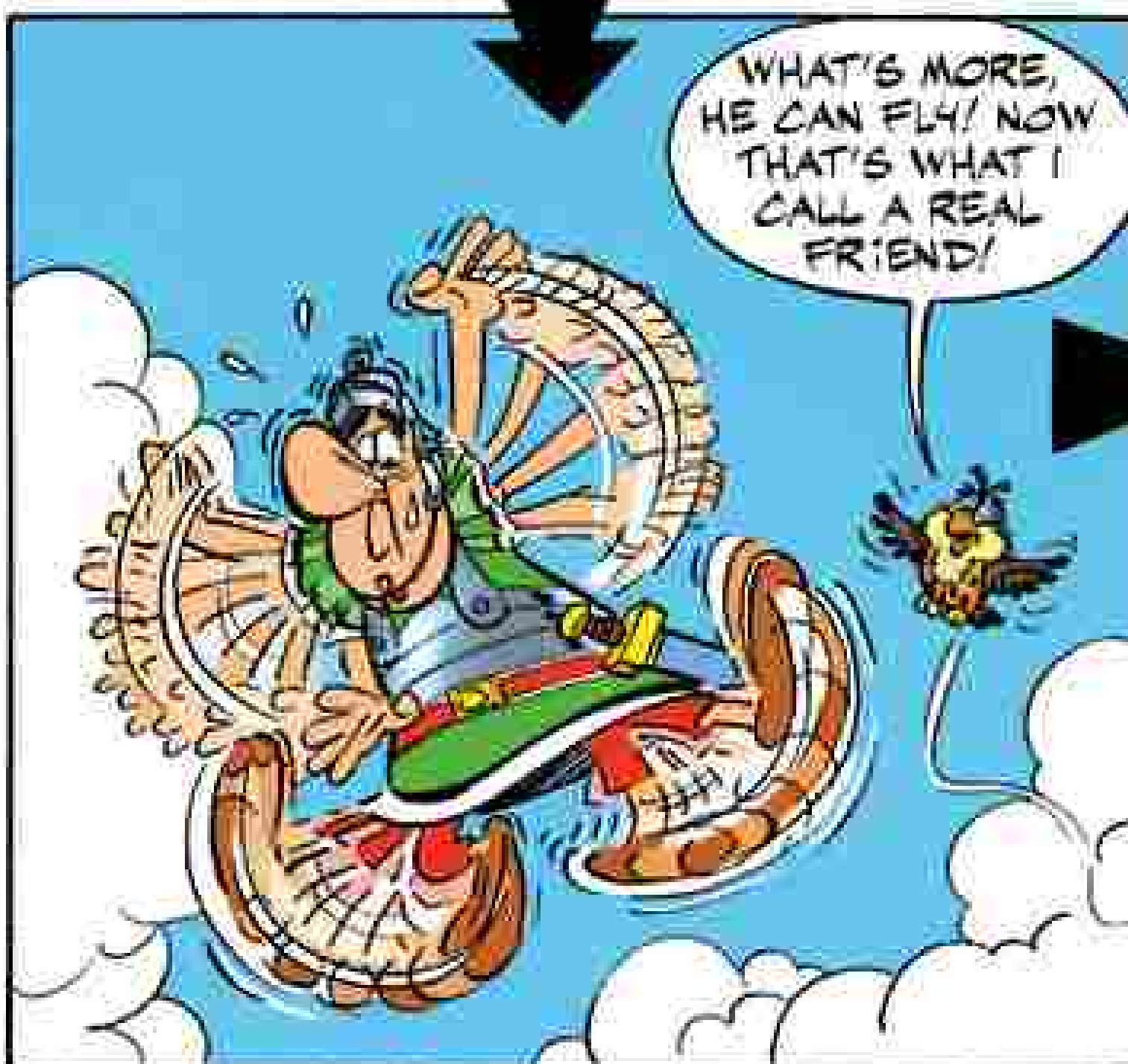
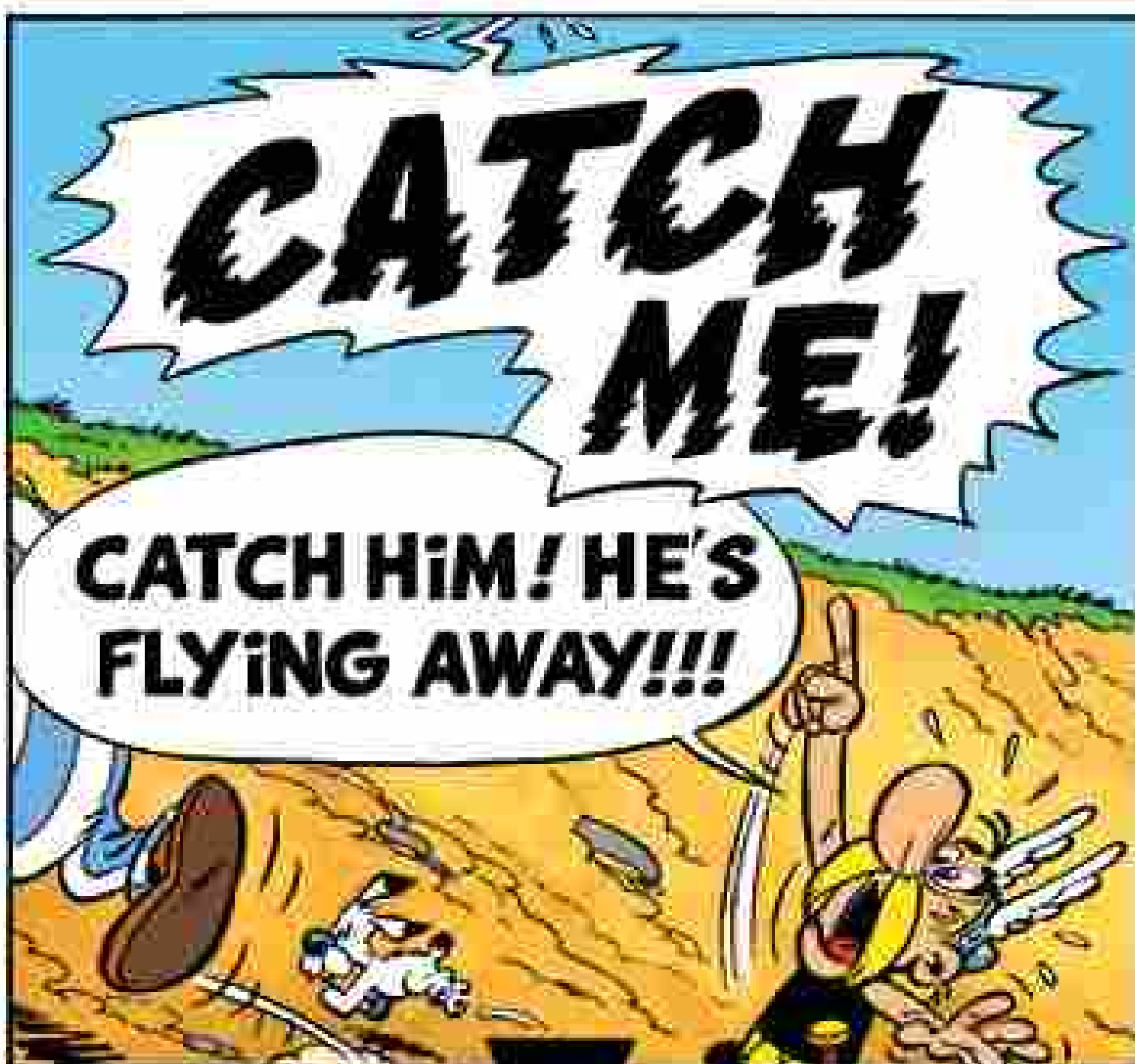
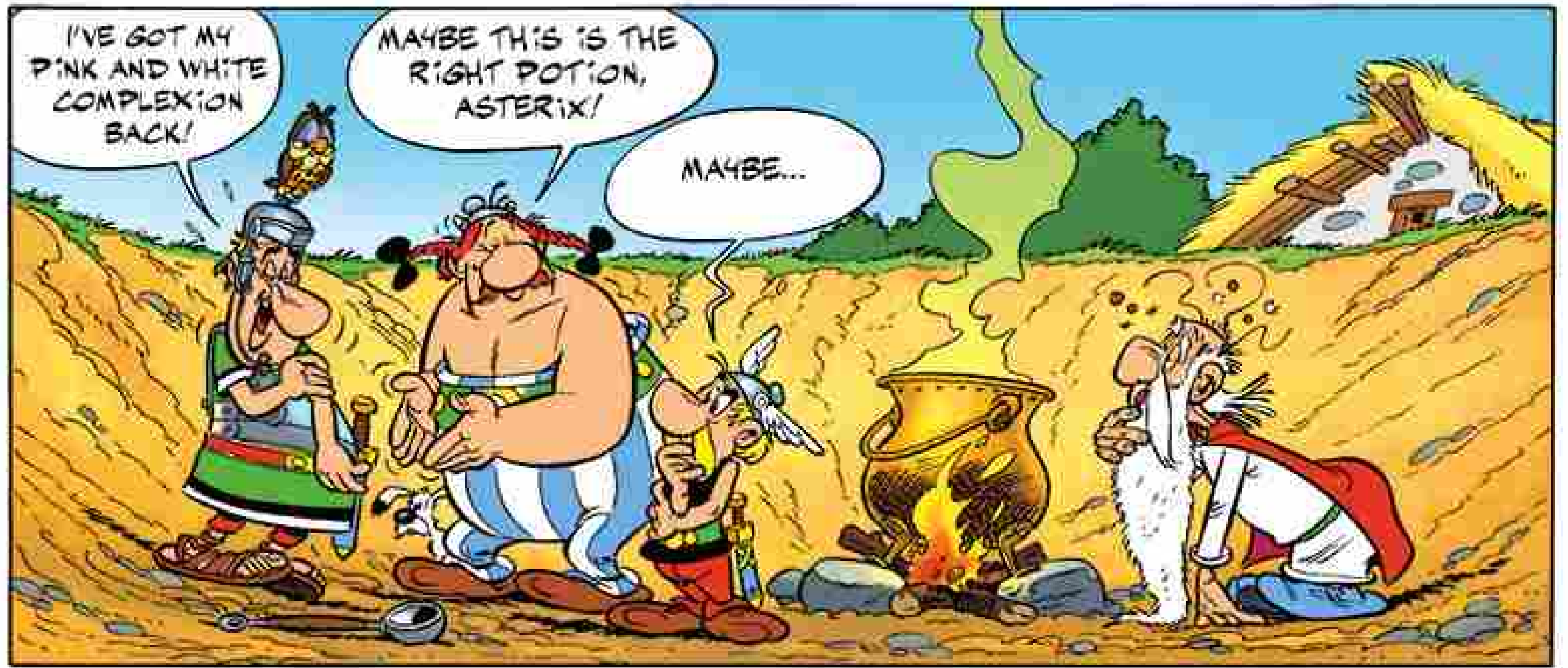


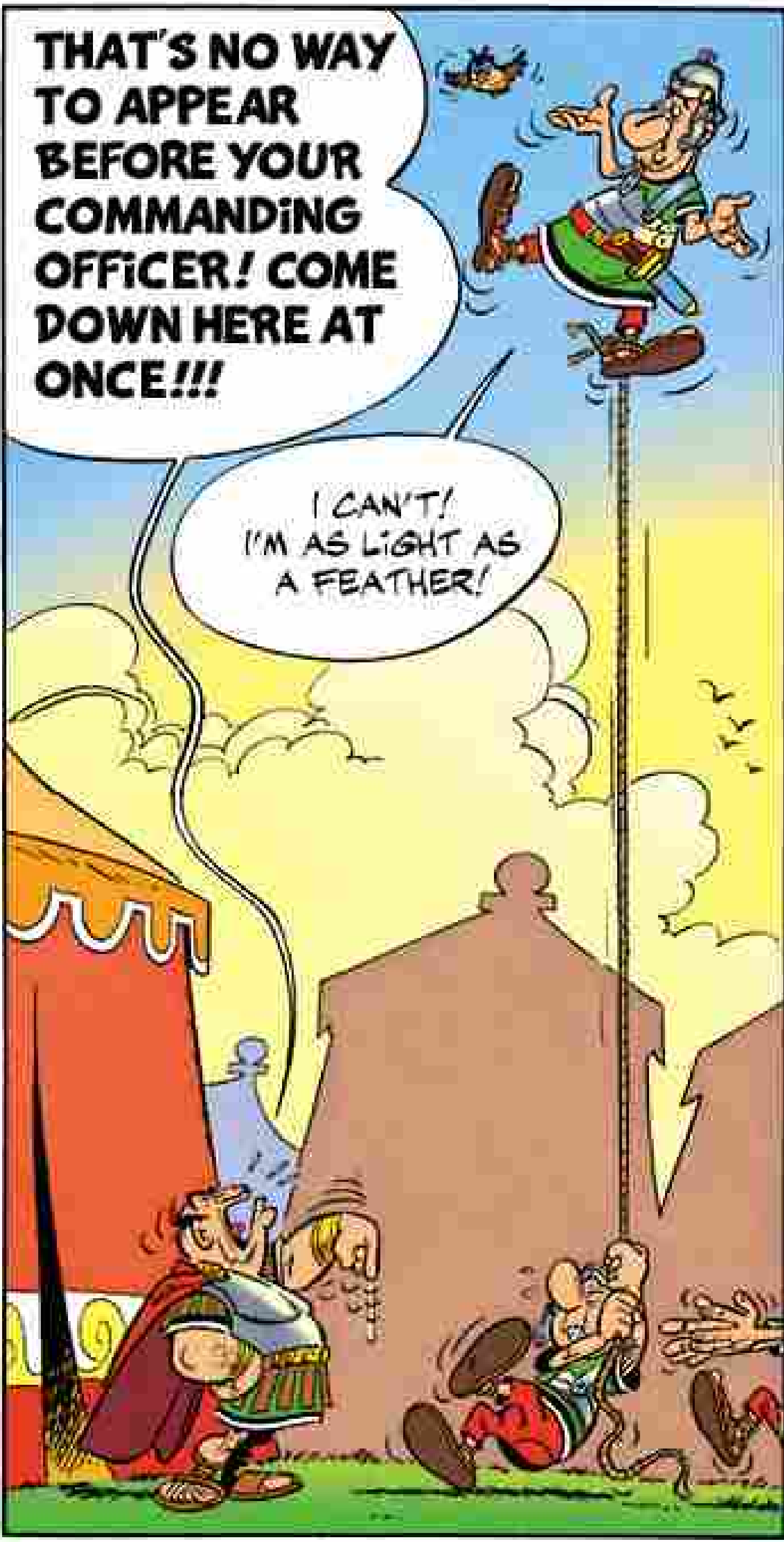
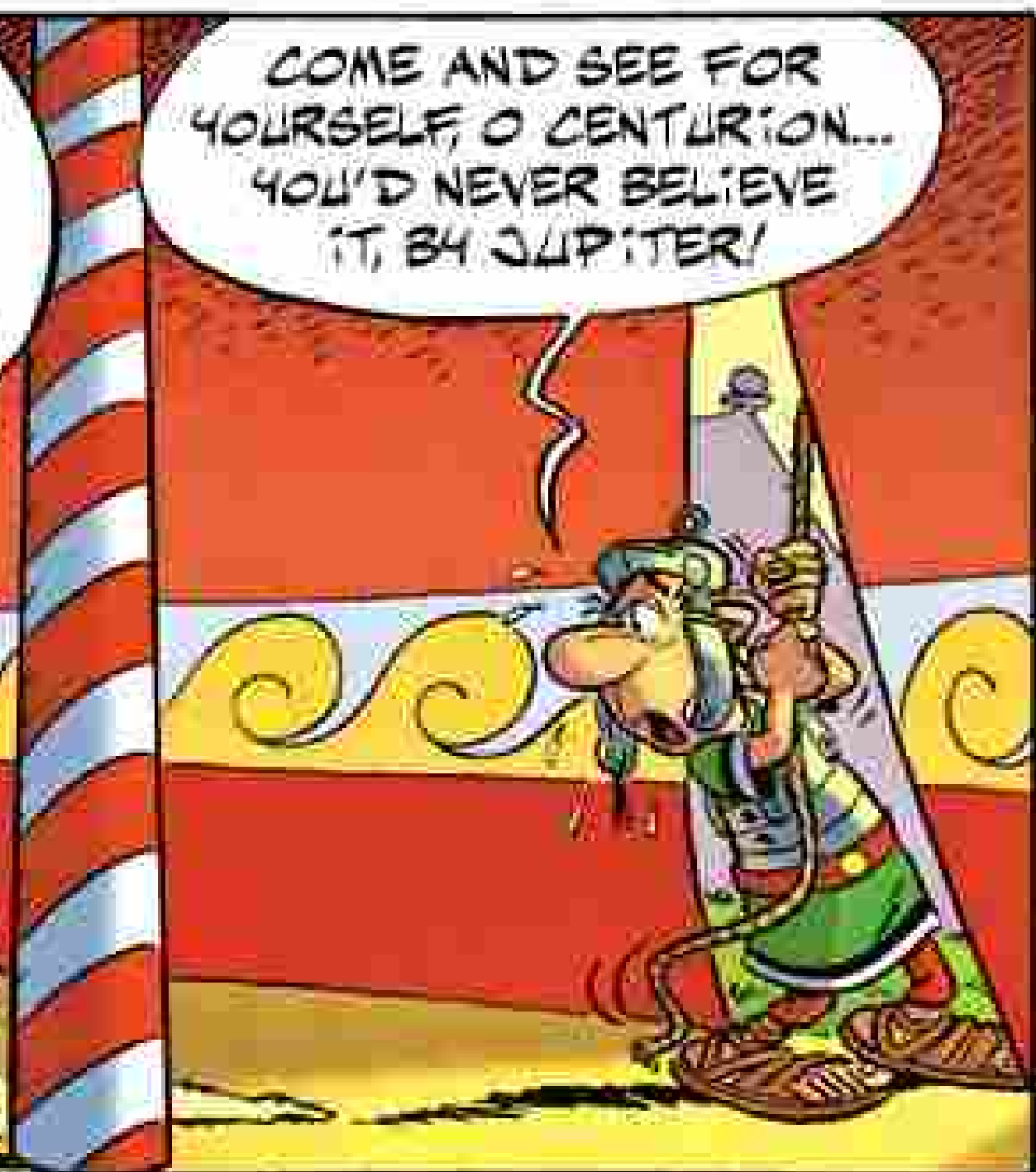
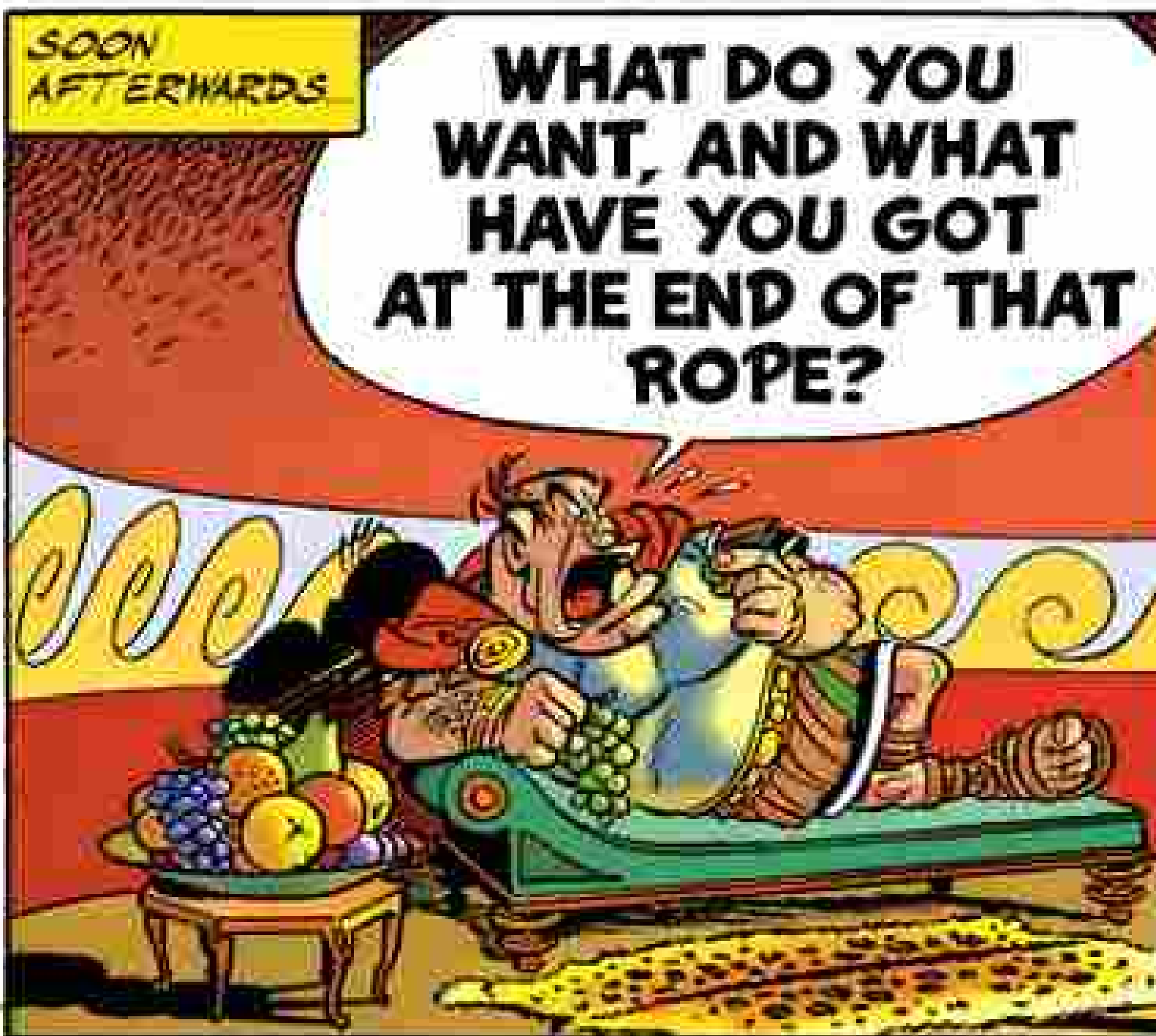
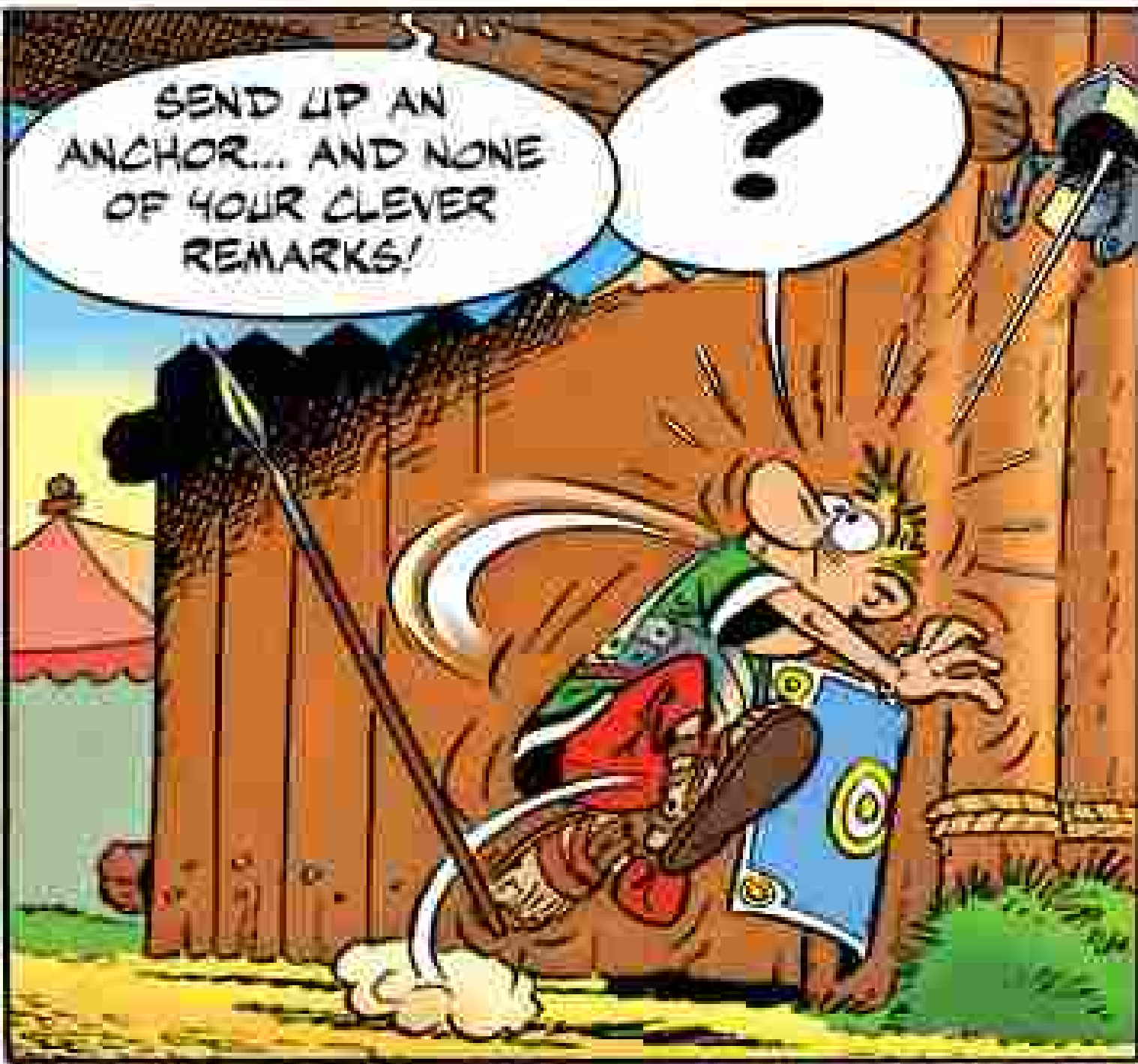
YIPPEE!



SOON AFTERWARDS...







ALL IS WELL! THAT MENHIR
OBTAINING SOME
IMPACT ON THE DRUID!
HE HAS LOST HIS POWERS
OF MAKING MAGIC
POTION.

**LET'S GET AT THE
GAULS! THERE
ARE A LOT MORE
OF US THAN THEM!**

IT'S QUITE
UNNECESSARY TO
RISK INJURY... LET
CASS'US CERAMIX
DO THE DIRTY
WORK FOR US.
WE'LL ATTACK ONLY
IF HE LOSES.

**GNNNEE
HEEHEE!**

**HOHA
HA HA!**

HEY...
WHAT
ABOUT
ME?

HE FLIES AT NIGHT,
JUST LIKE ME! HE'S THE
NICEST TREE I EVER
LIGHTED UPON!

**WHAT'S UP
WITH YOU?**

WHAT'S TO BECOME OF
ME? YOU'RE STARTING
TO GET ME DOWN...
I HOPE!

**DON'T WORRY! THE EFFECTS OF
THESE GAULISH POTIONS ARE ONLY
TEMPORARY! IT WILL SOON WEAR OFF.
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT!**

SURE ENOUGH,
IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE NIGHT...

BAOOM!

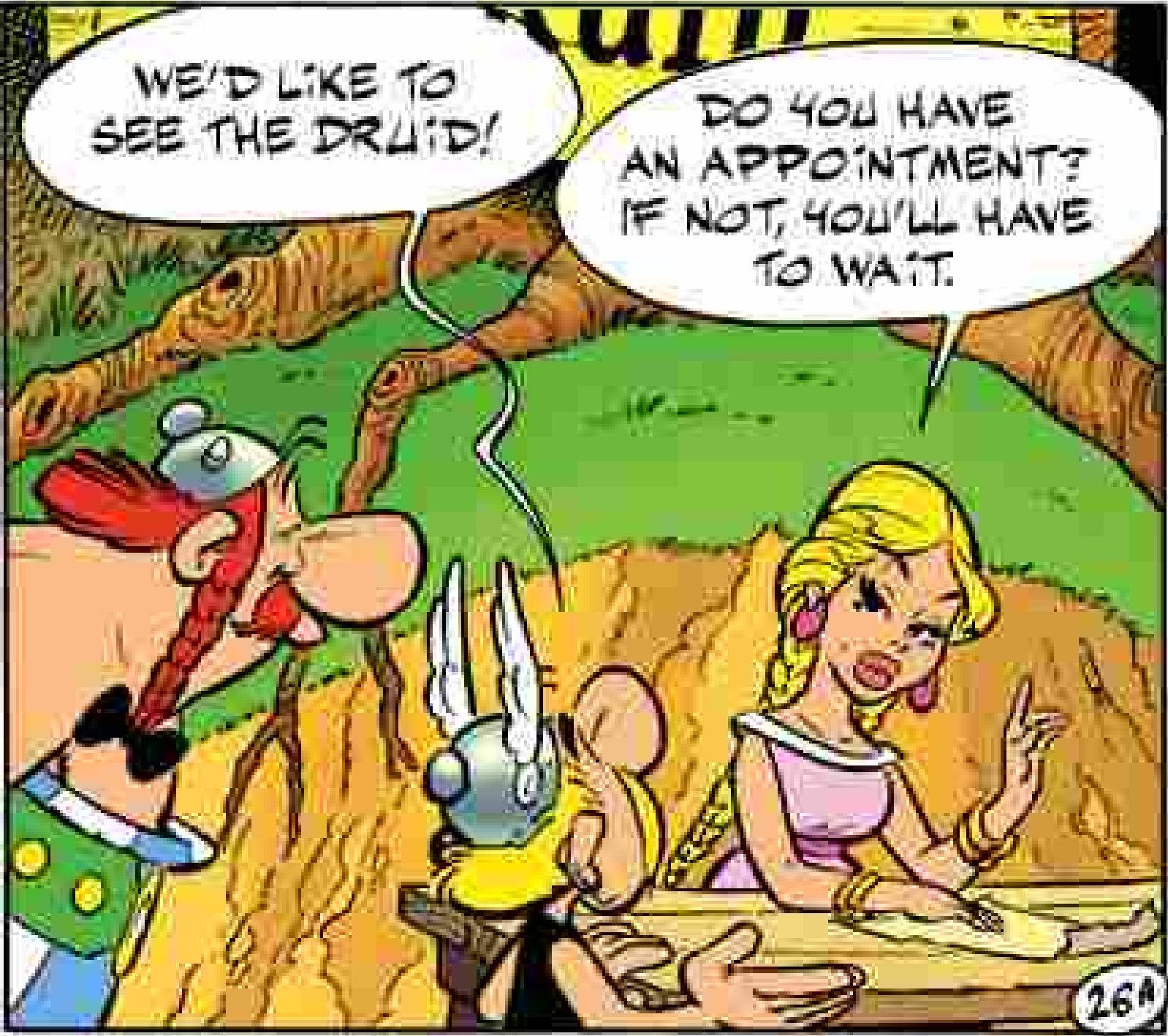
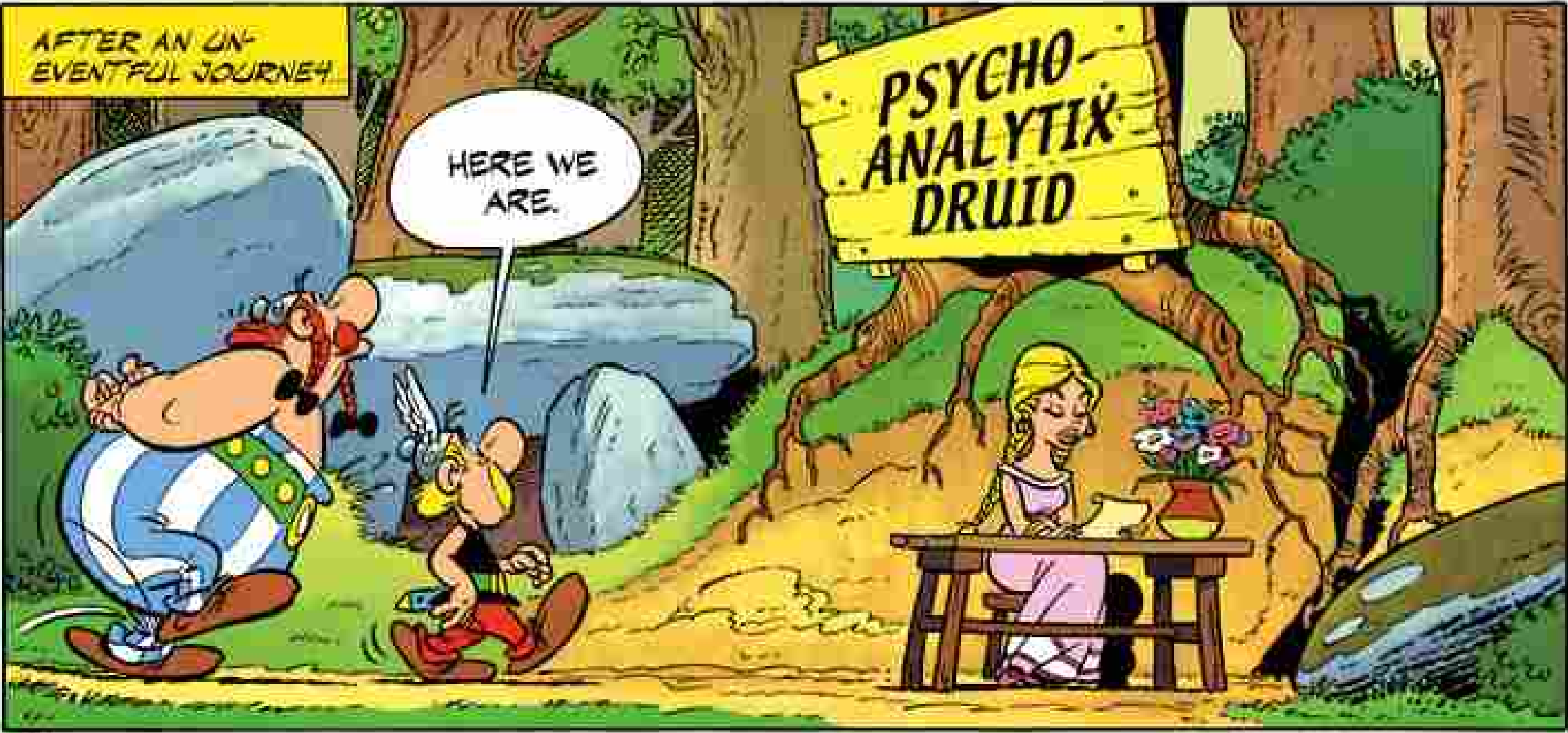
HM...
THE POTION'S
WORN OFF.

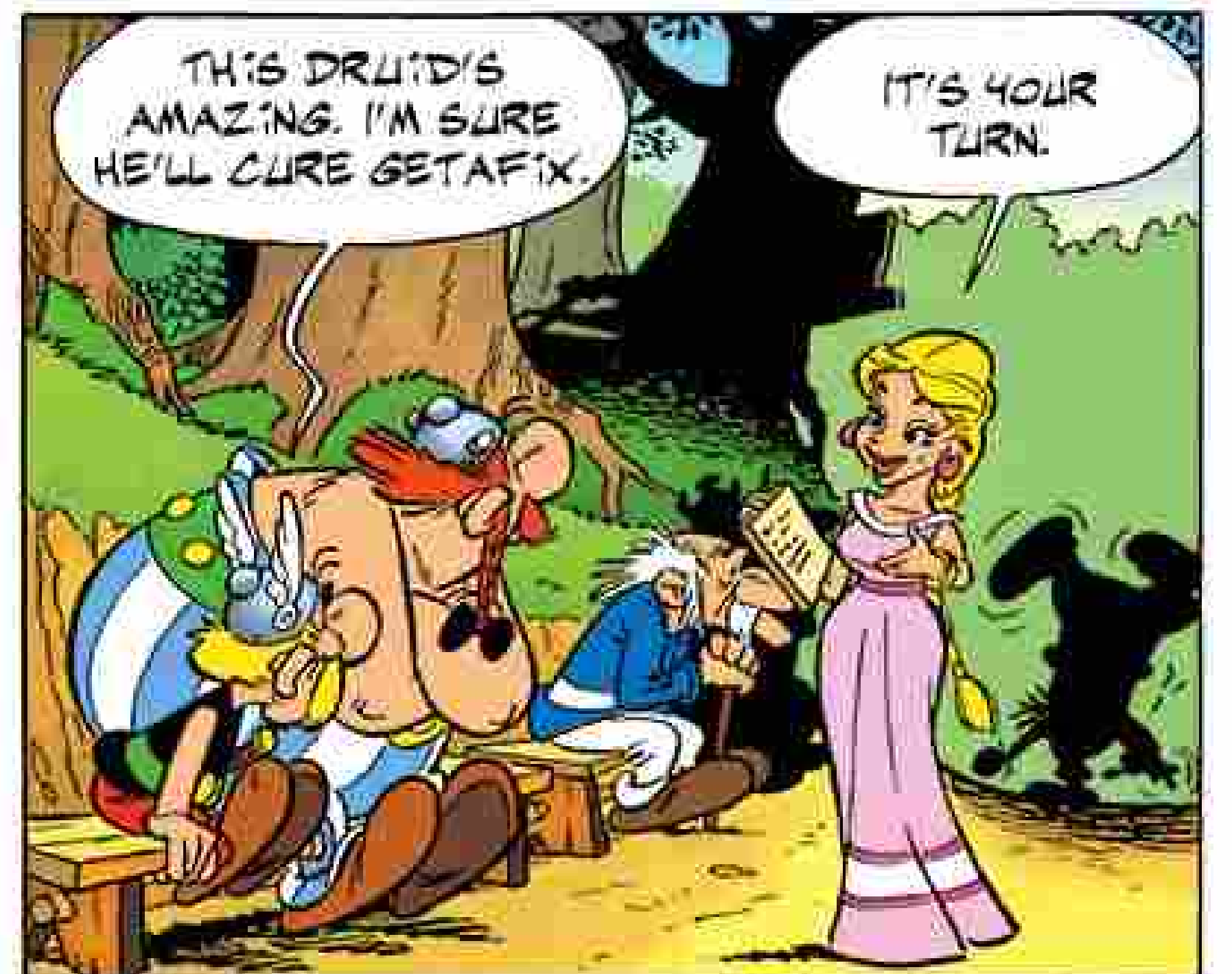
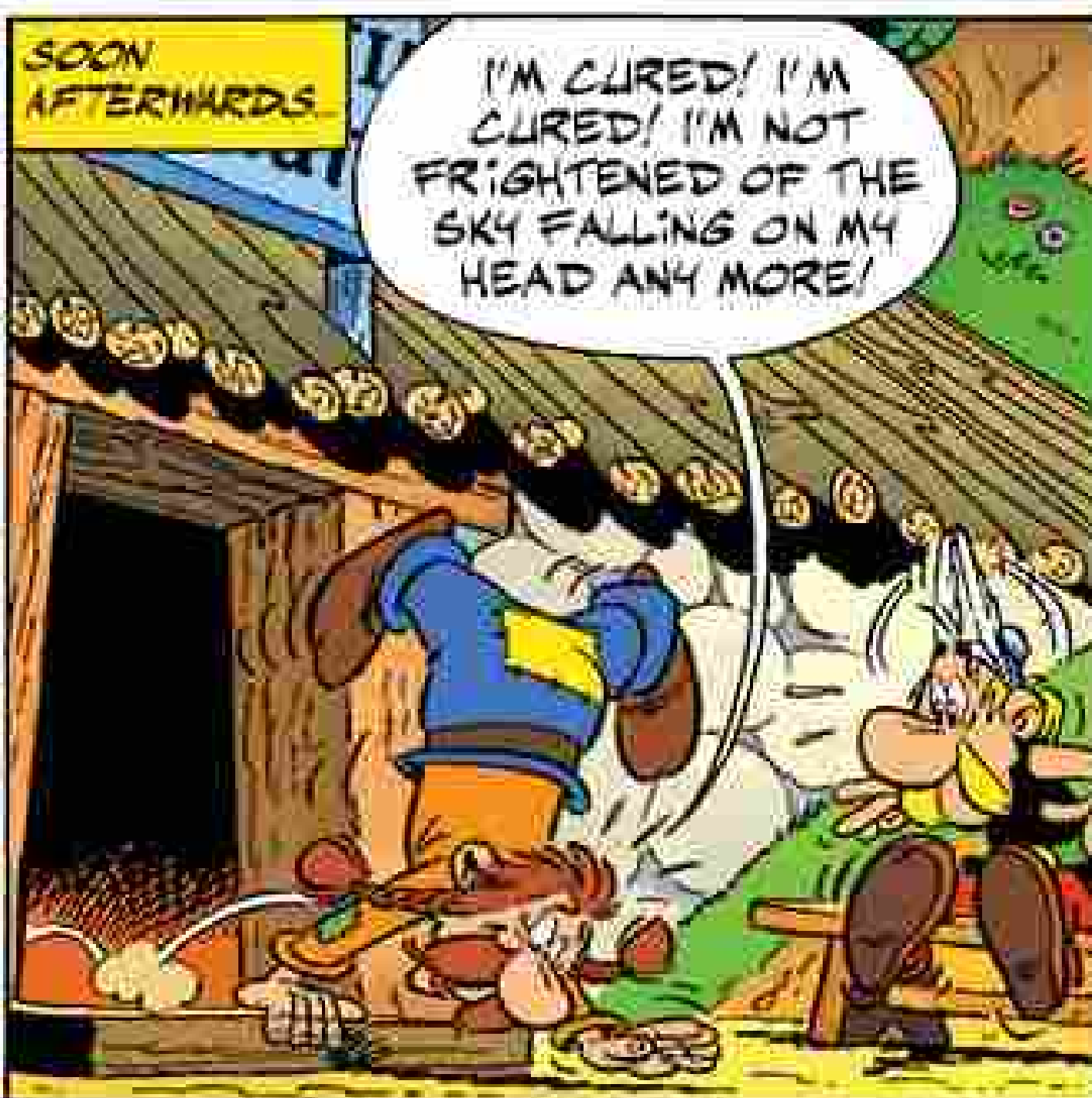
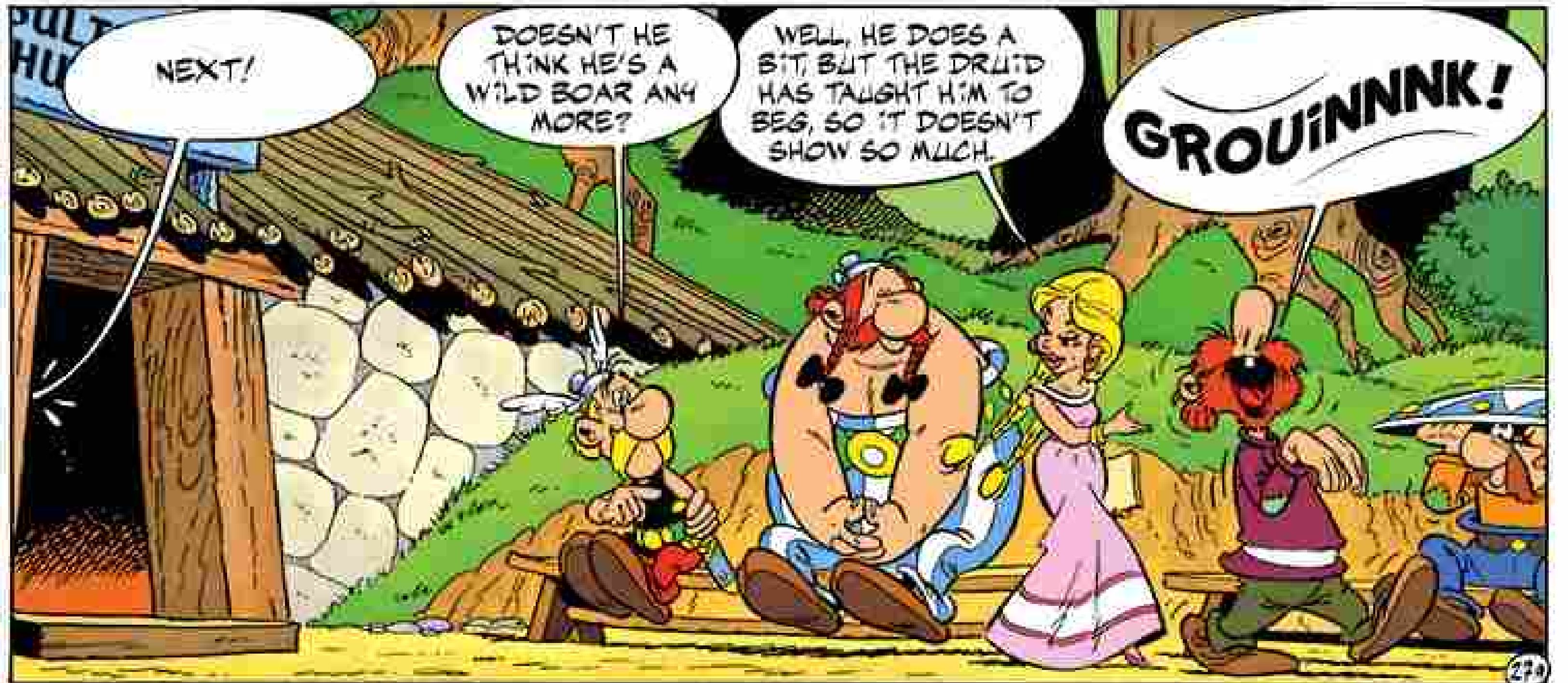
WHILE THE ROMANS ARE
DEAD TO THE WORLD,
THE GAULS PASS A
SLEEPLESS NIGHT...

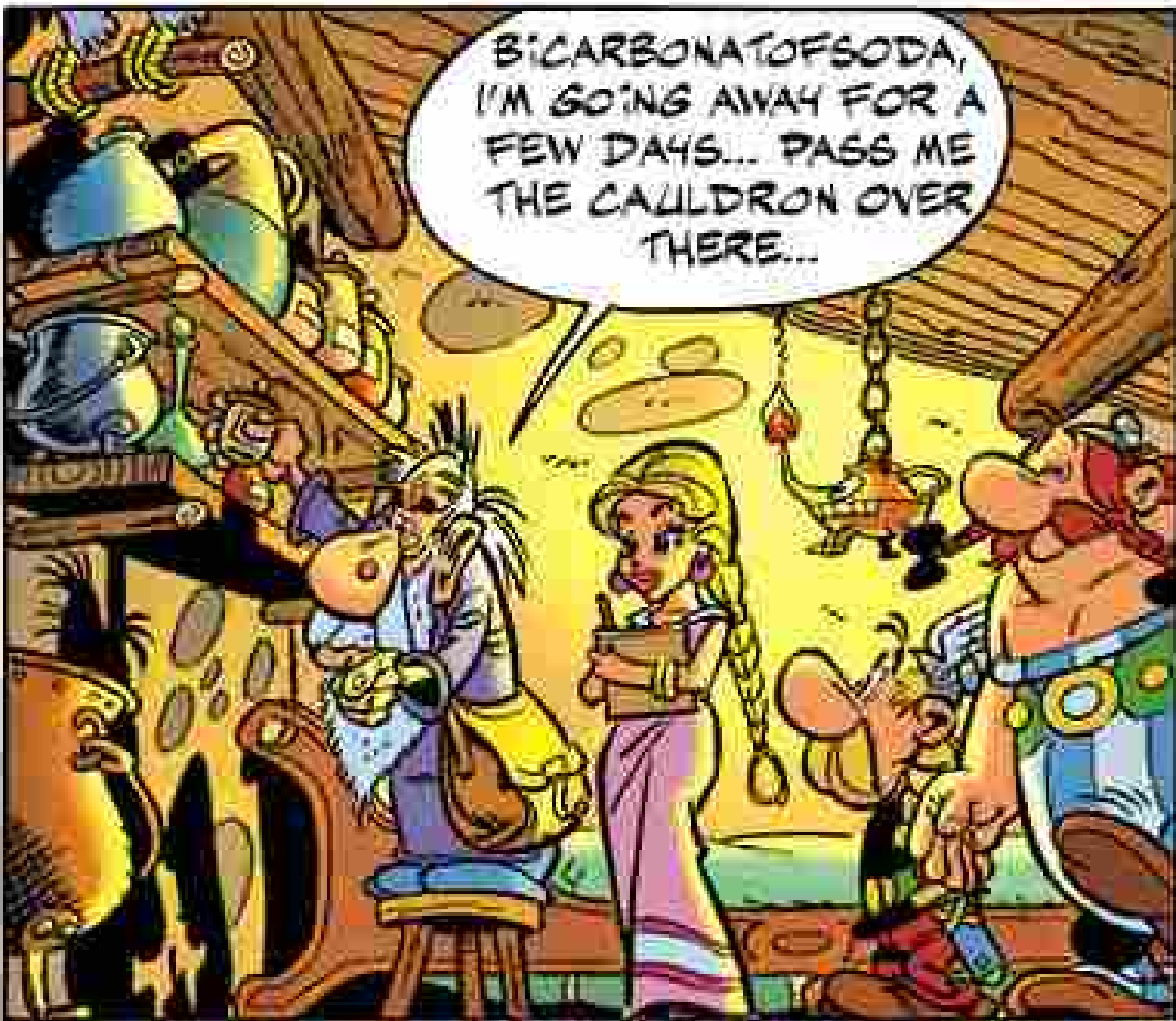
WE NEED
ANOTHER DRUID
TO CURE OUR
DRUID!

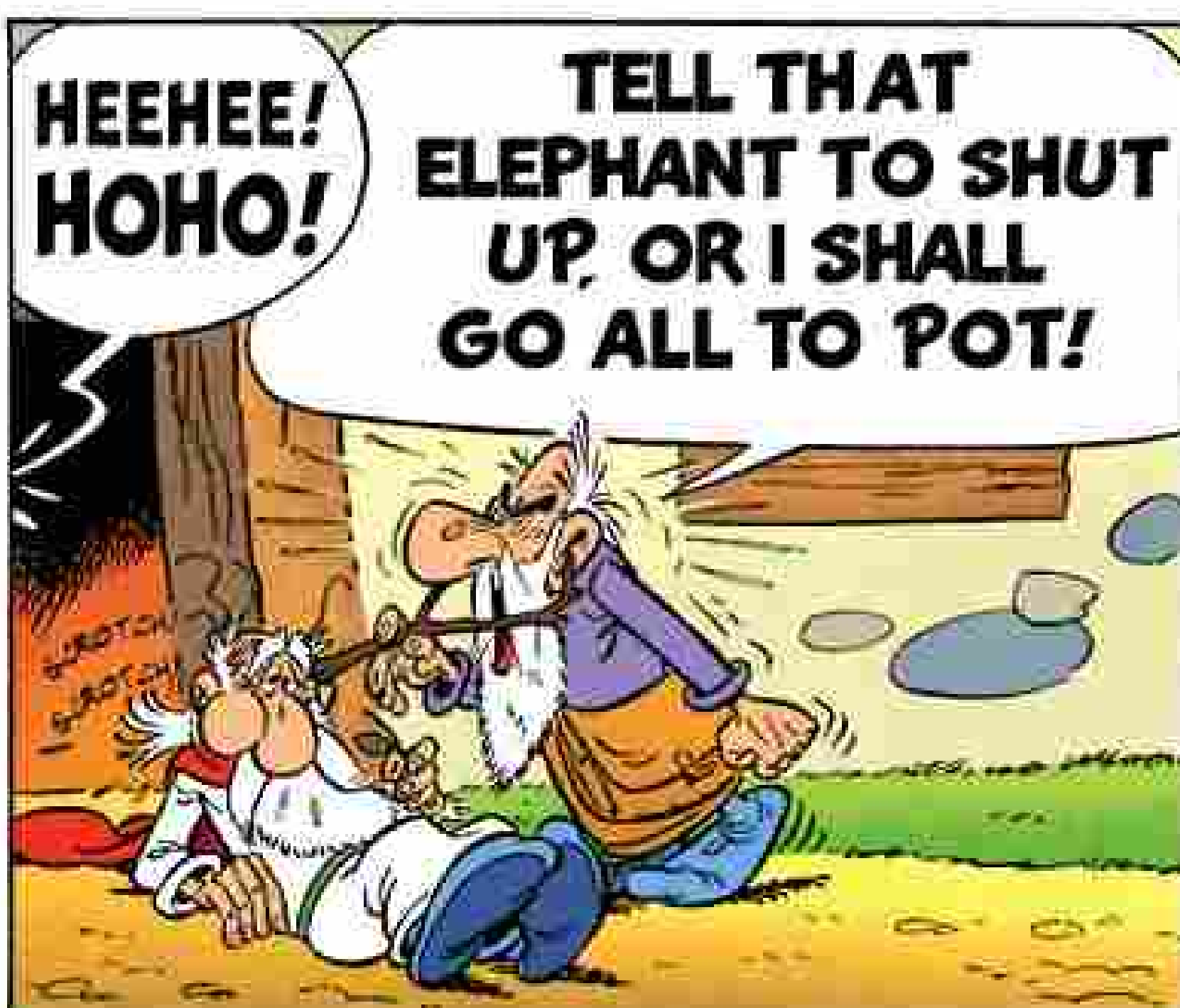
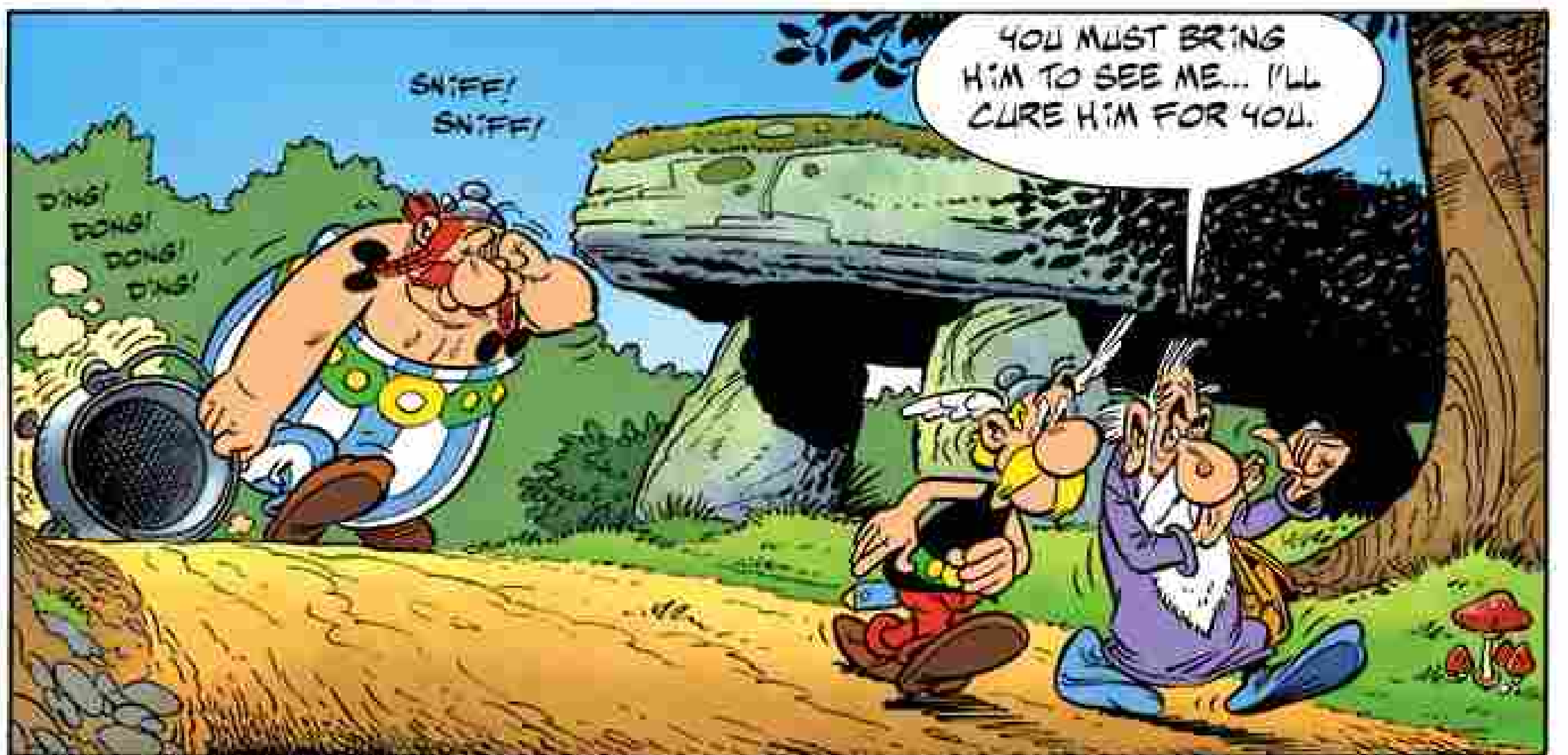
WHAT A
GOOD IDEA,
BY TOUTATIS!

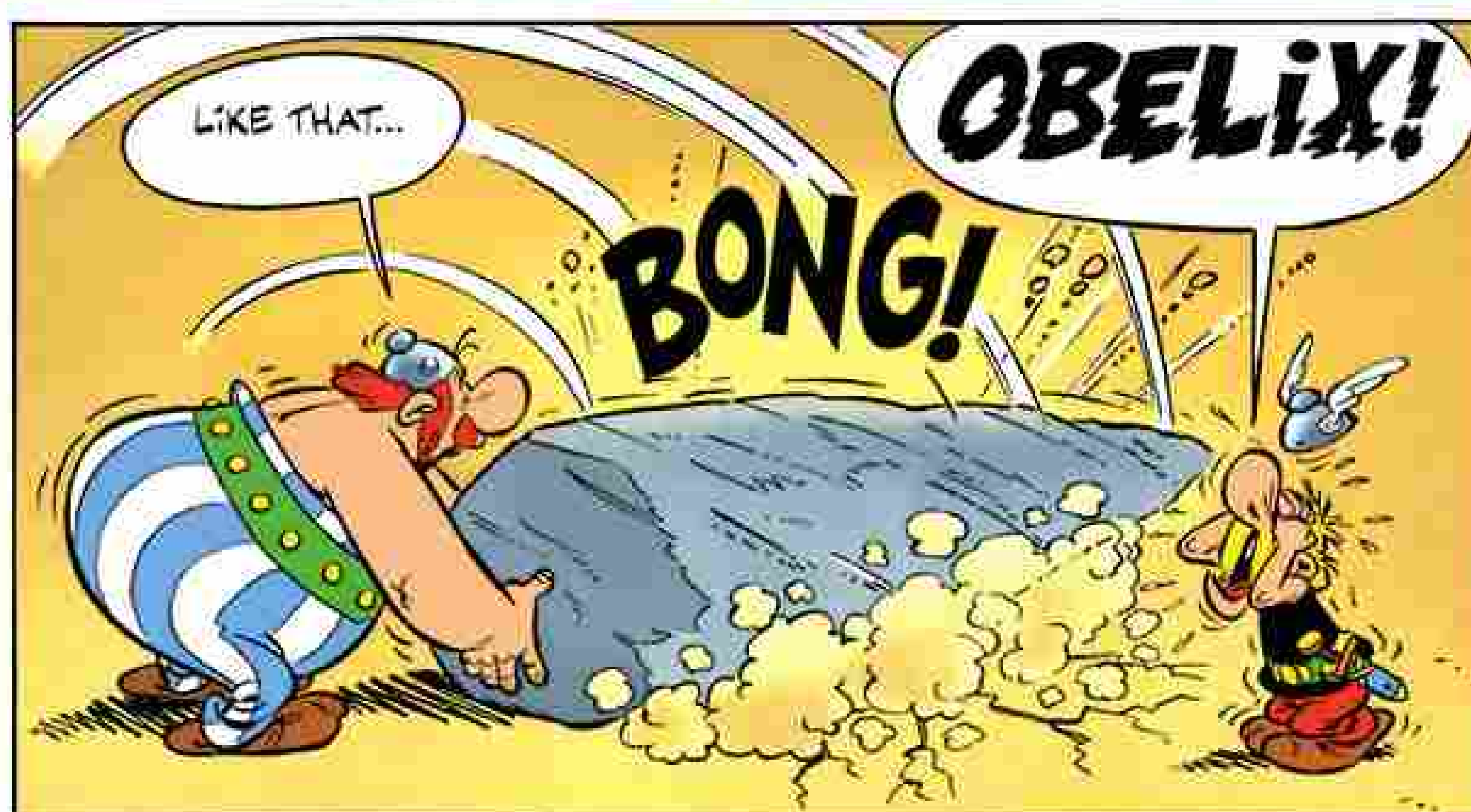
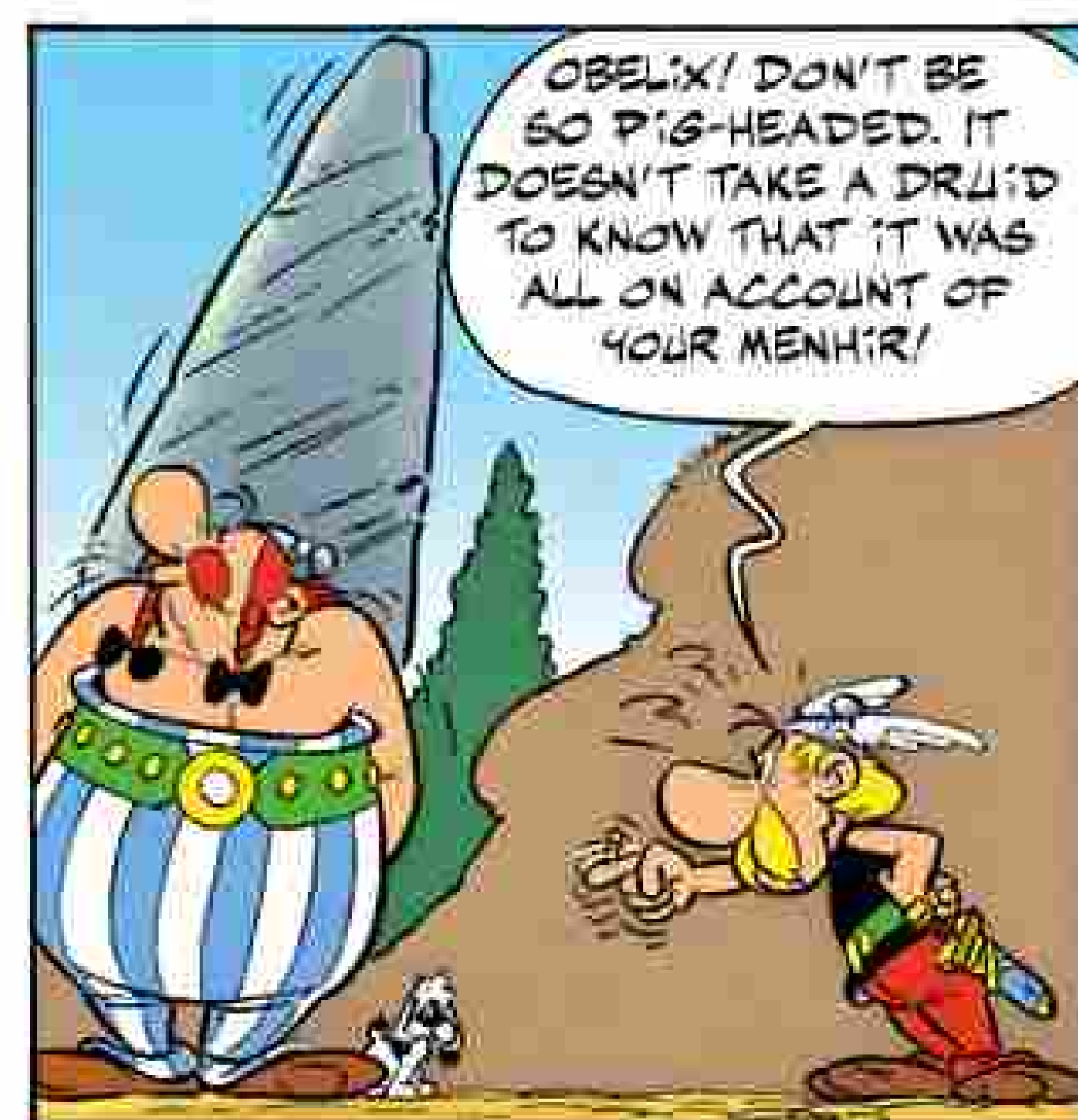
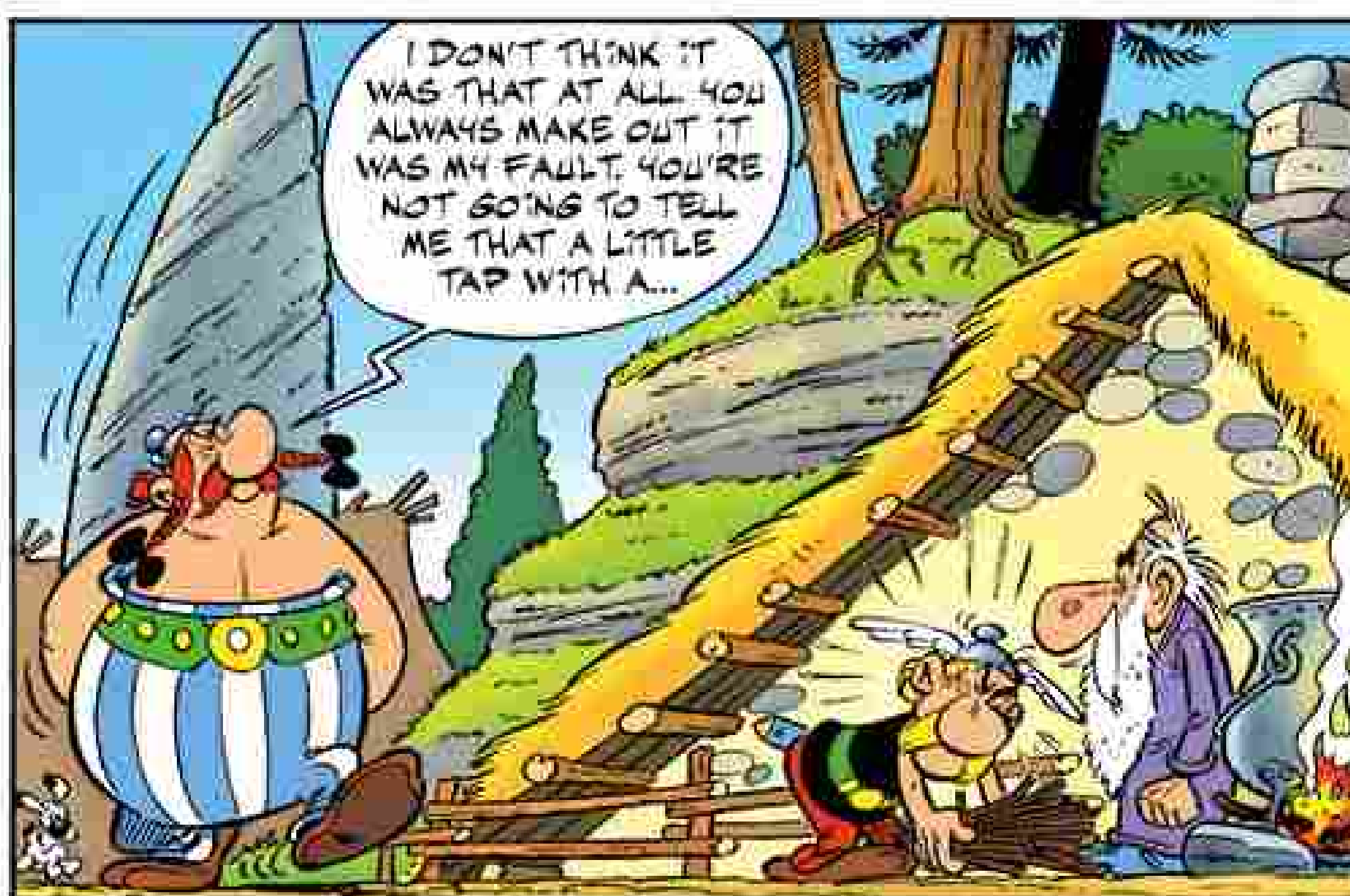
I KNOW A DRUID LIVING
NEAR HERE. HIS SPECIALITY
IS CURING THE MENTALLY
DISTURBED. HE'S CALLED
PSYCHOANALYT'X.

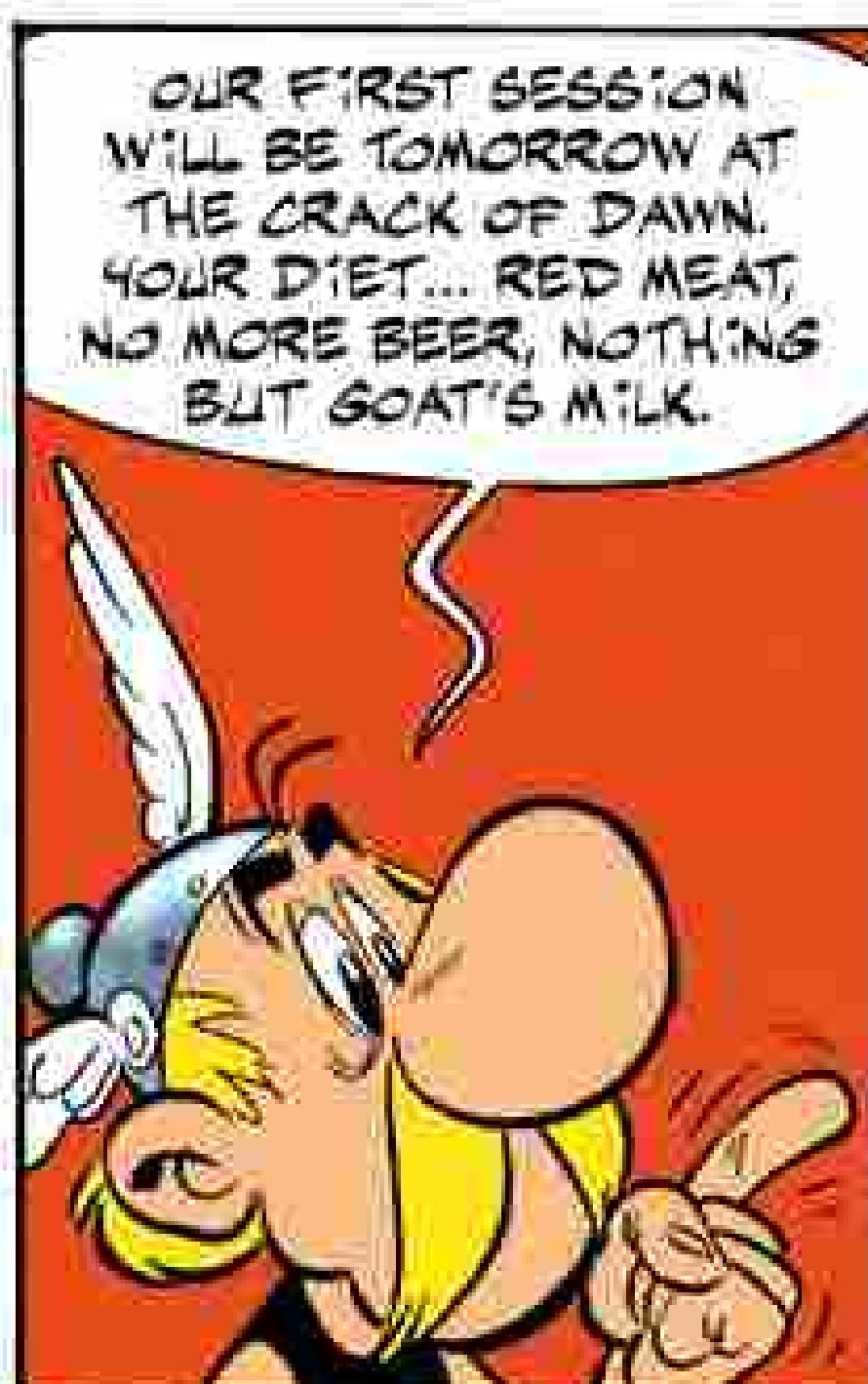


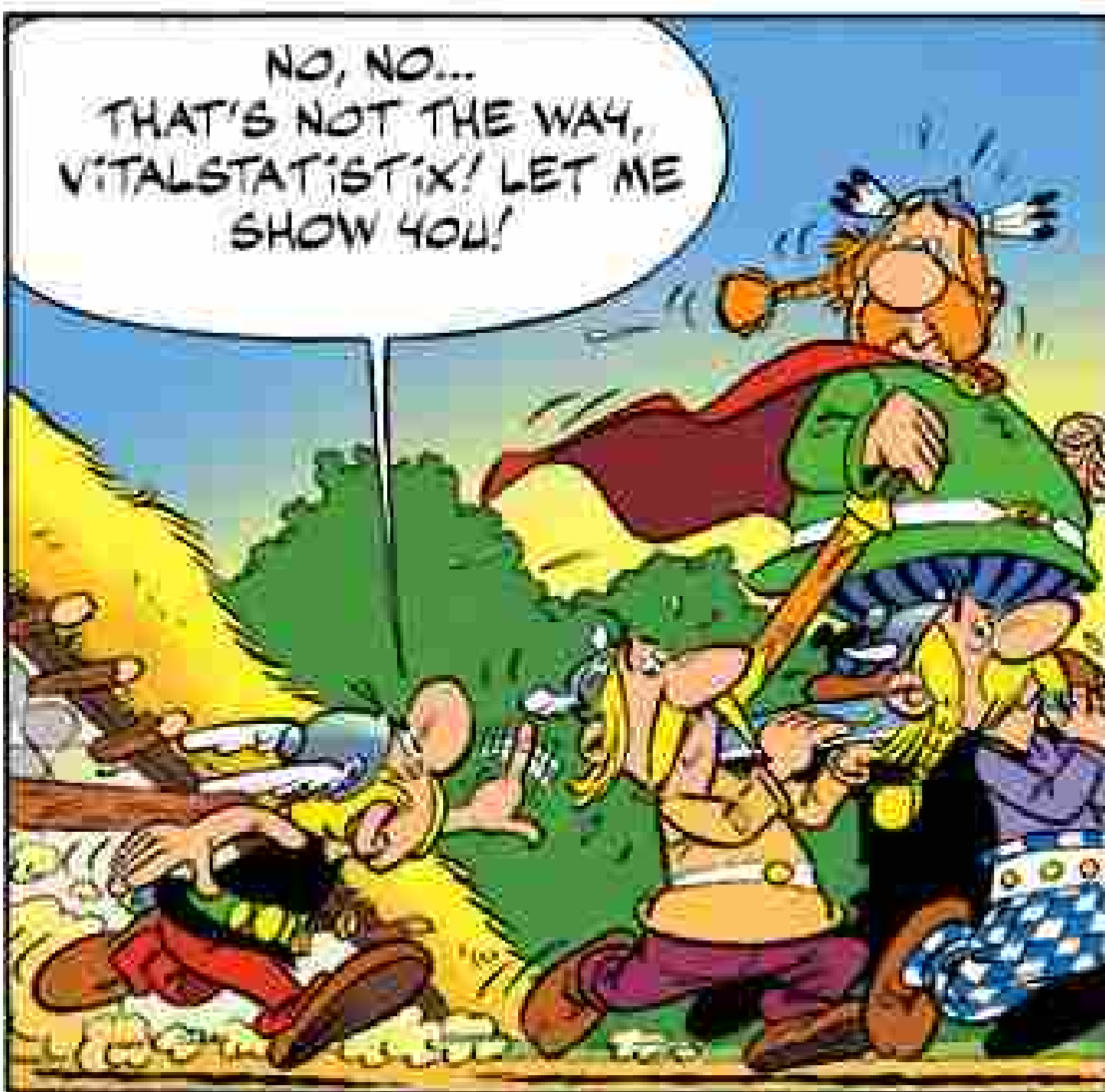
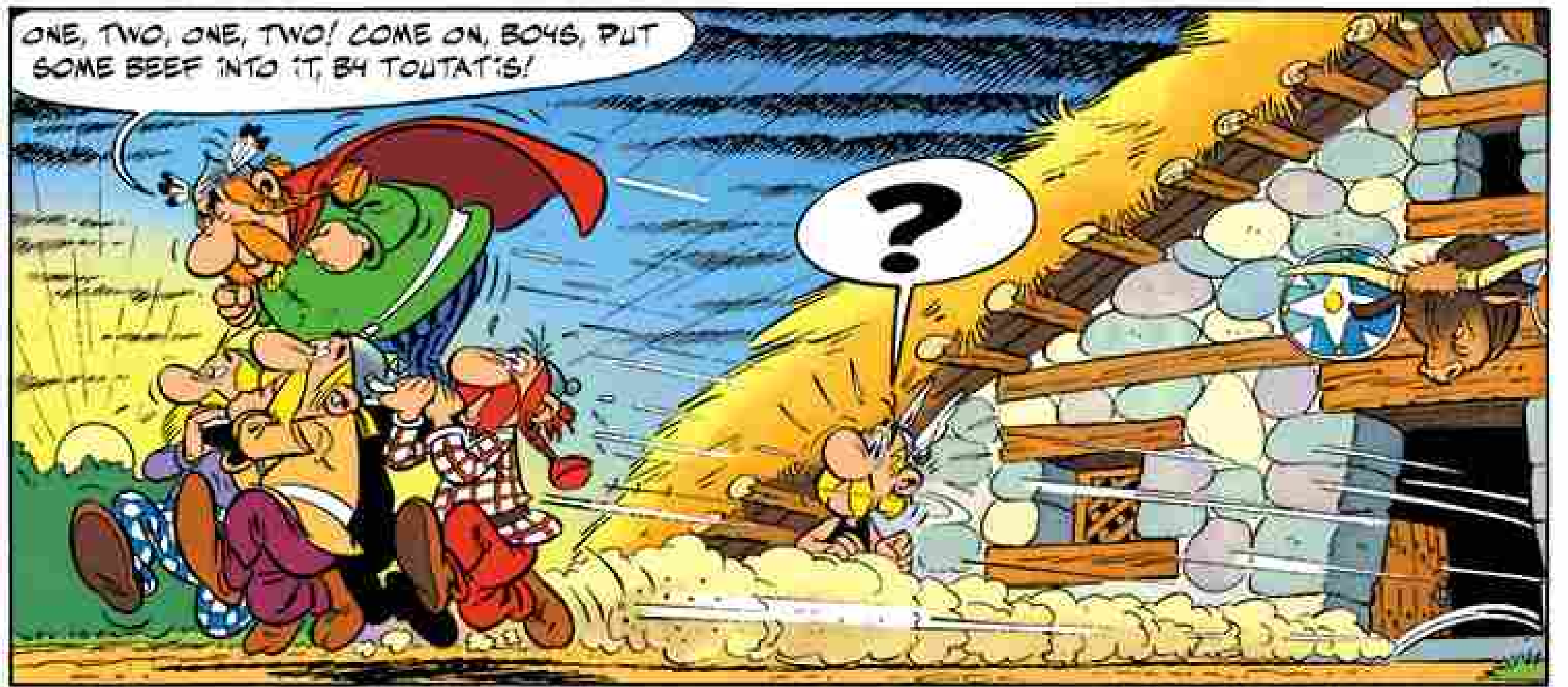


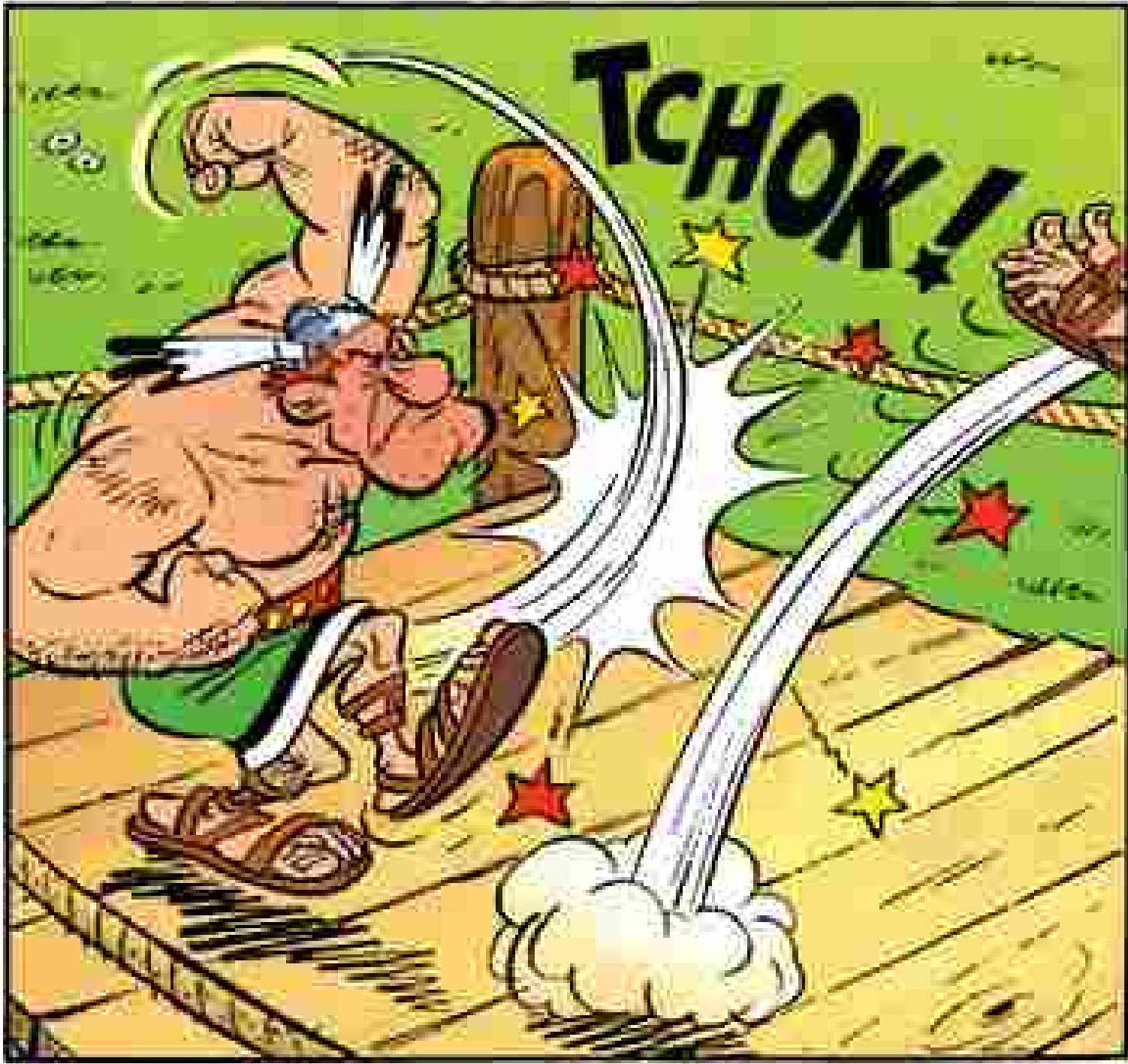
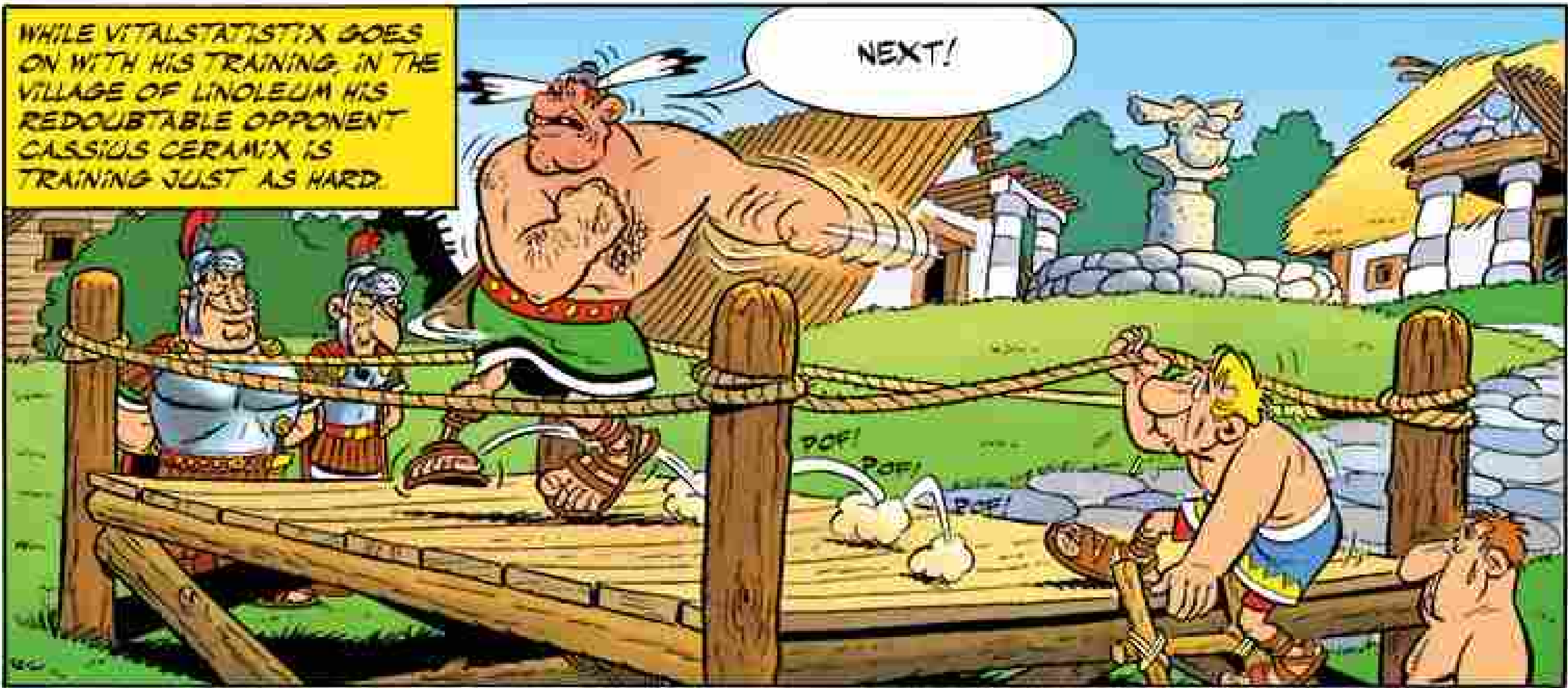








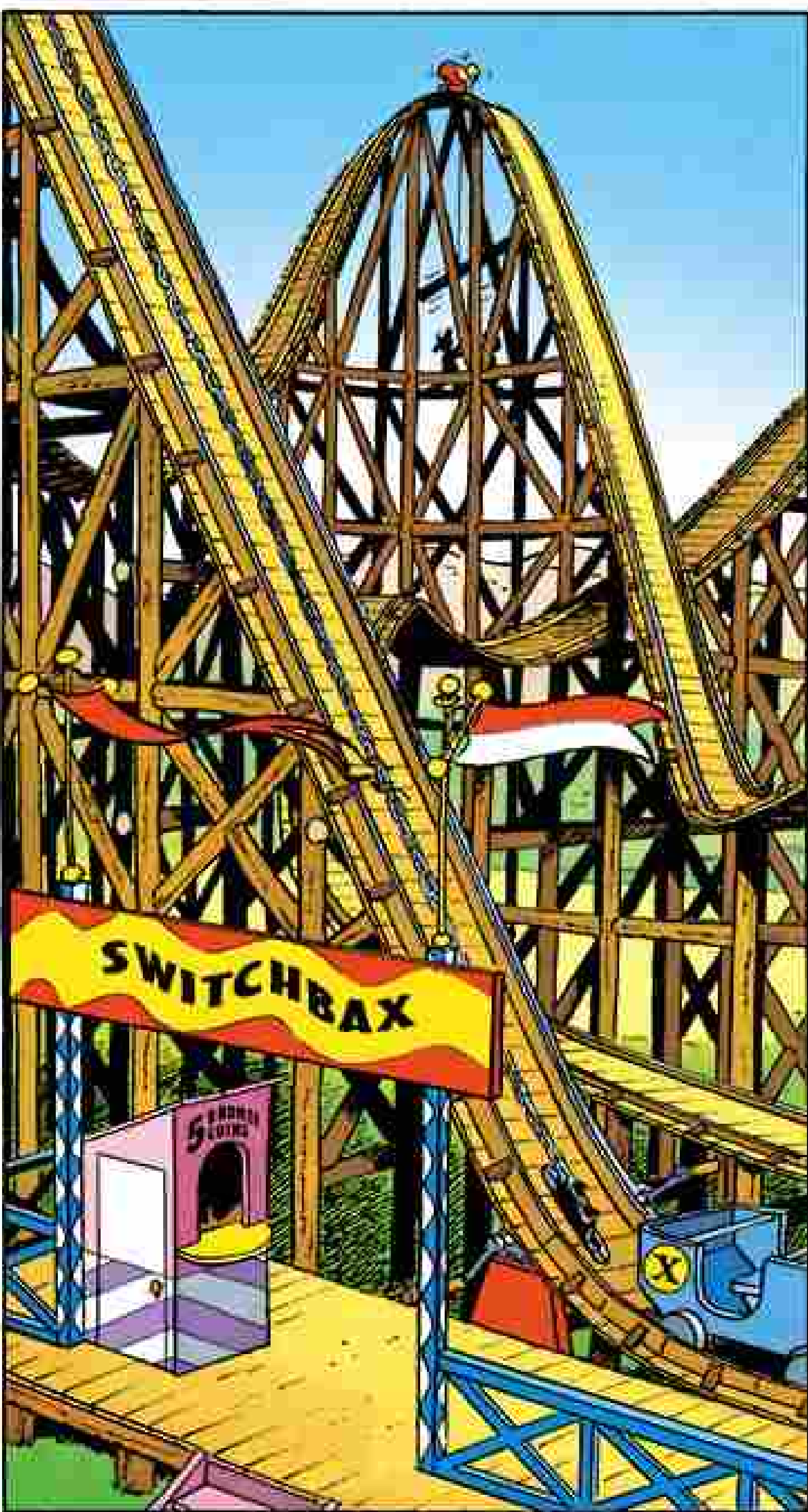
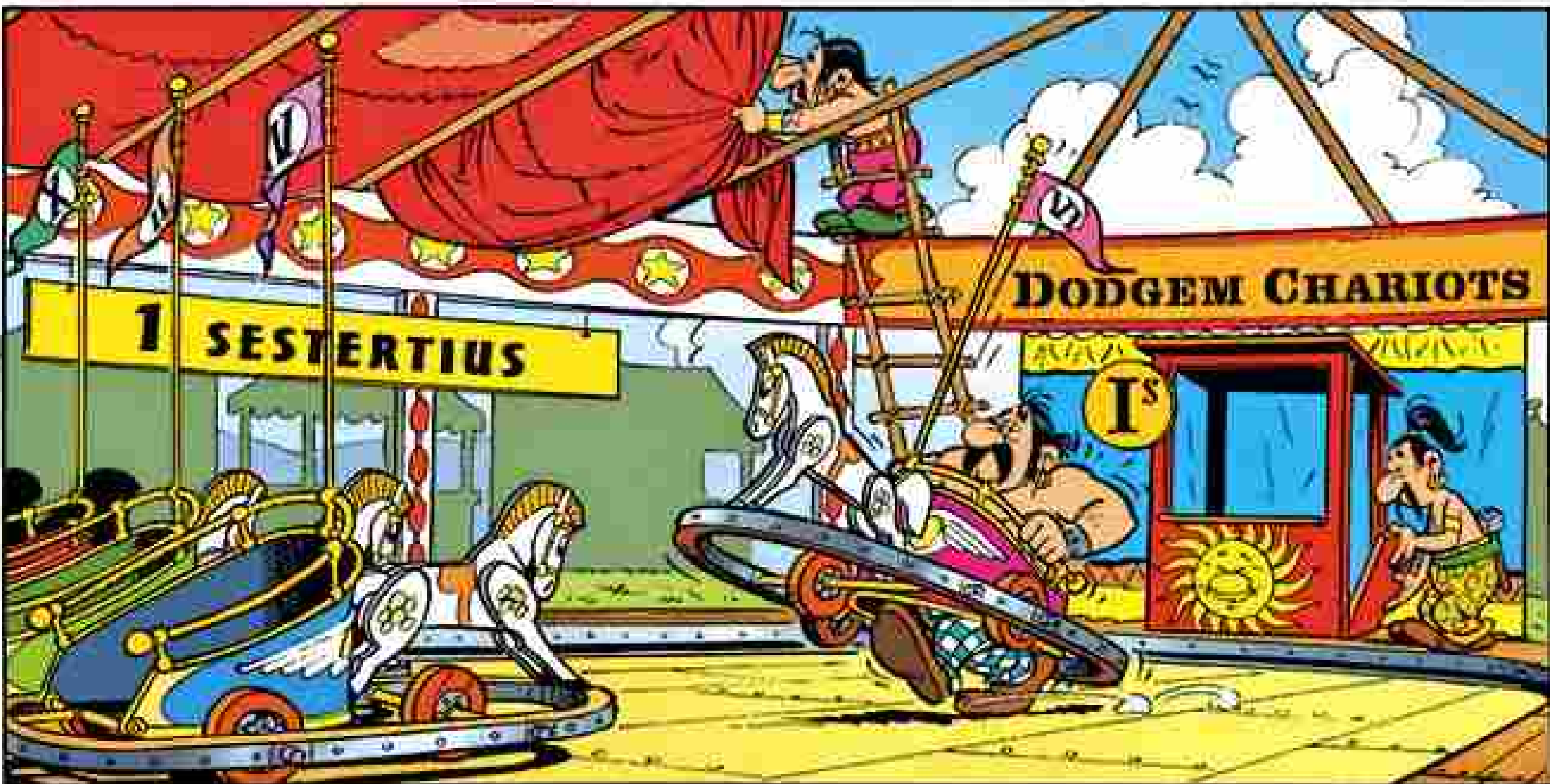


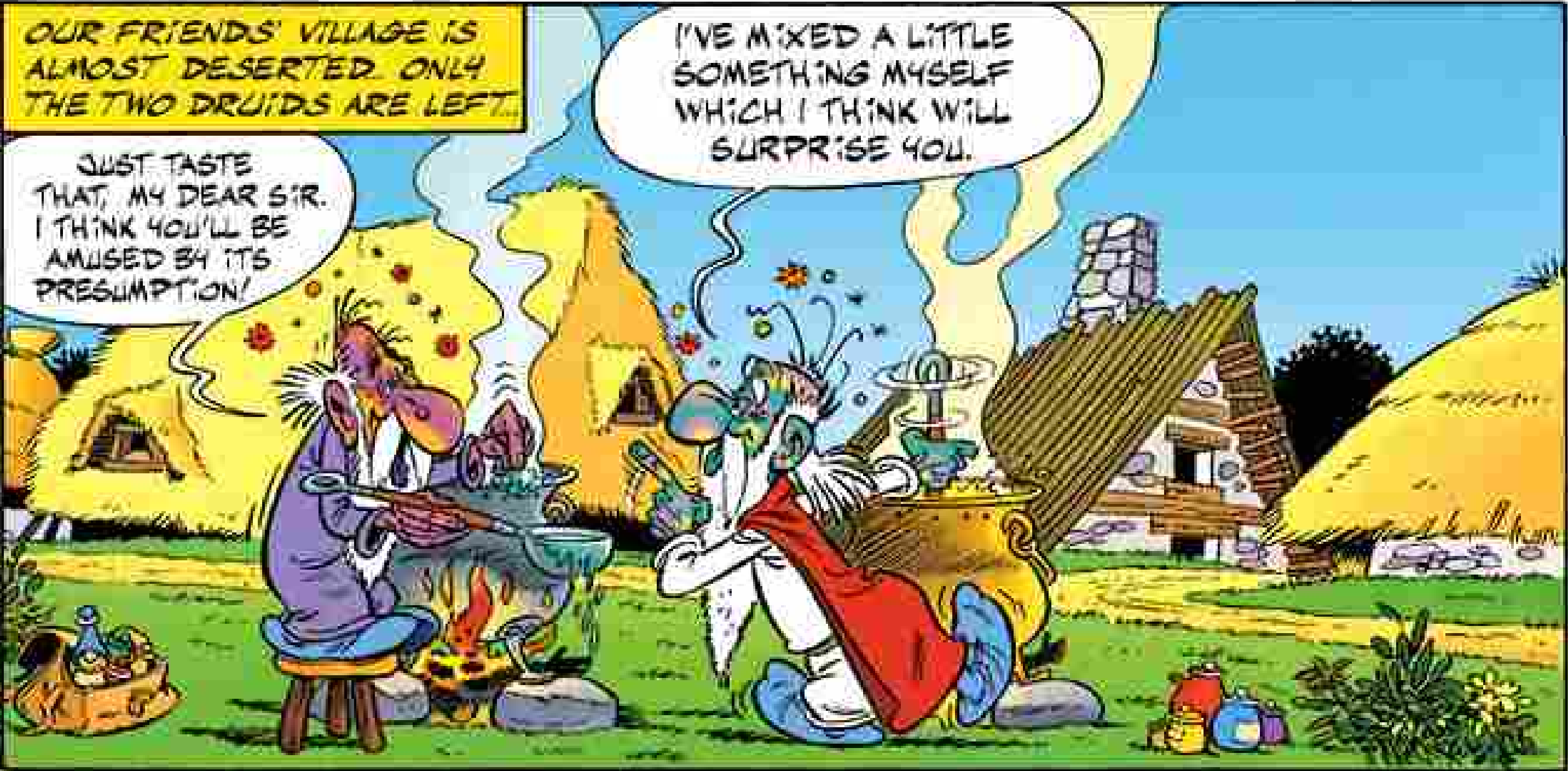


WHILE THE COMBATANTS ARE IN TRAINING, THE ROMANS BUILD THE RING FOR THE BIG FIGHT OUTSIDE THE CAMP.



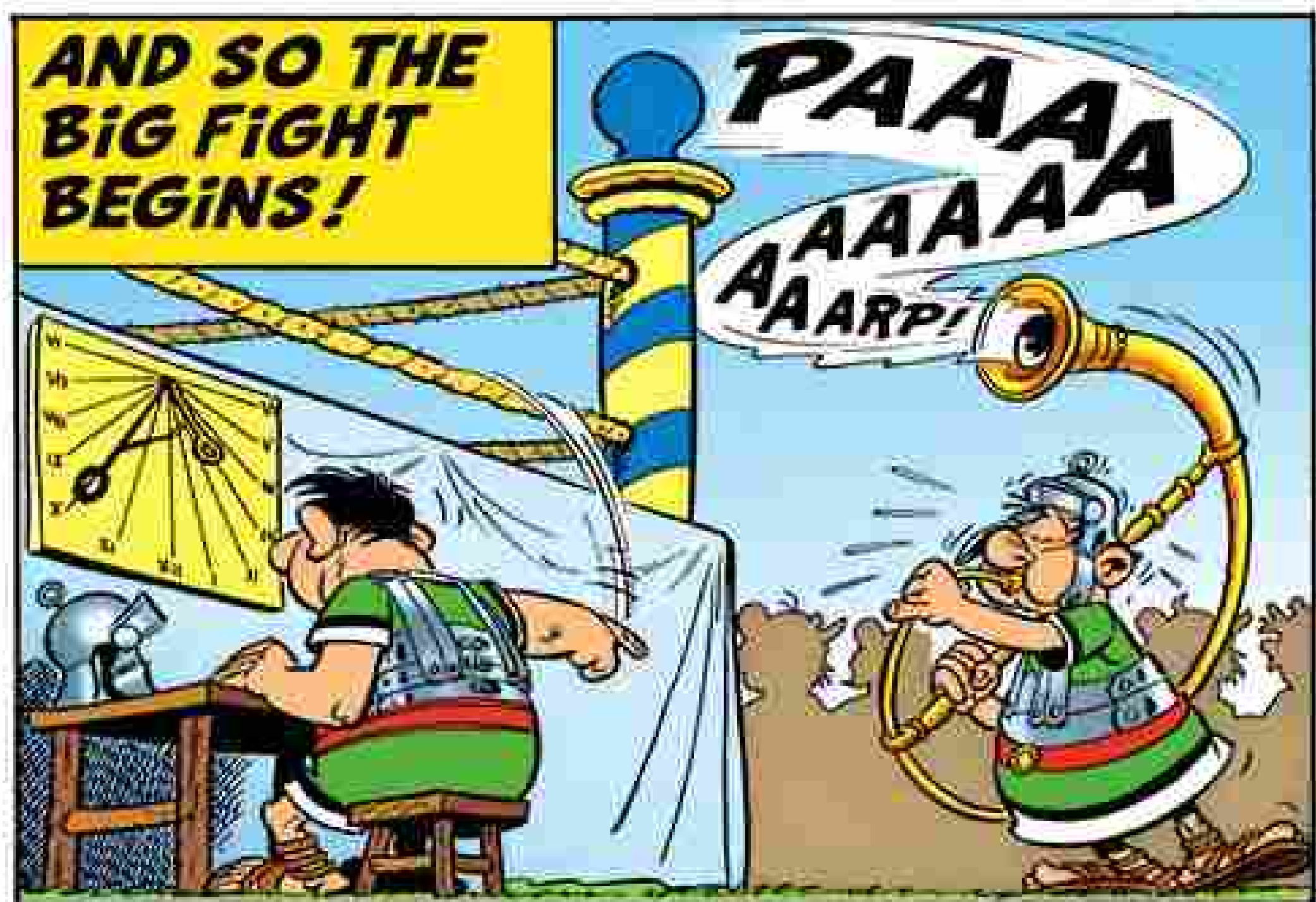
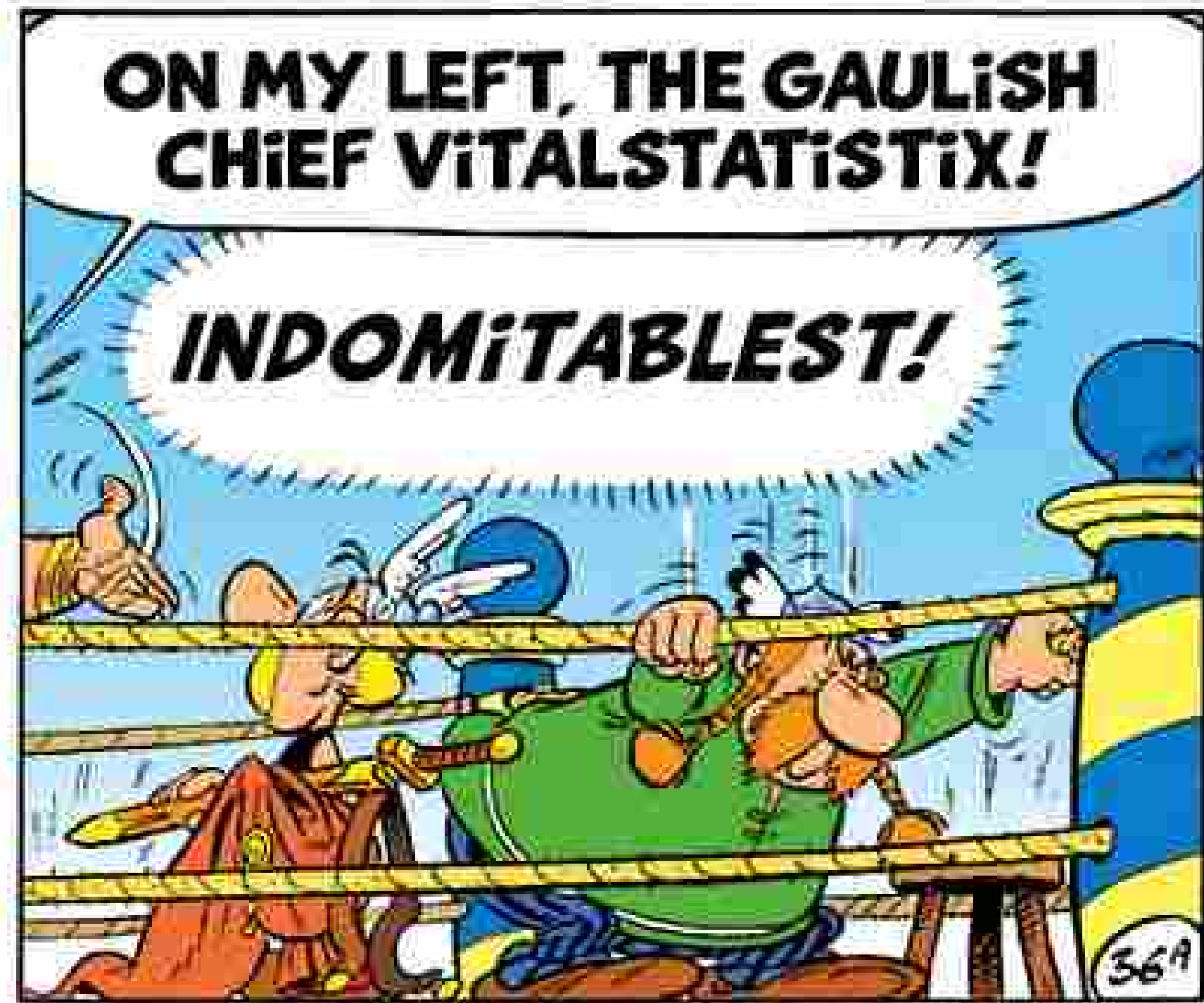
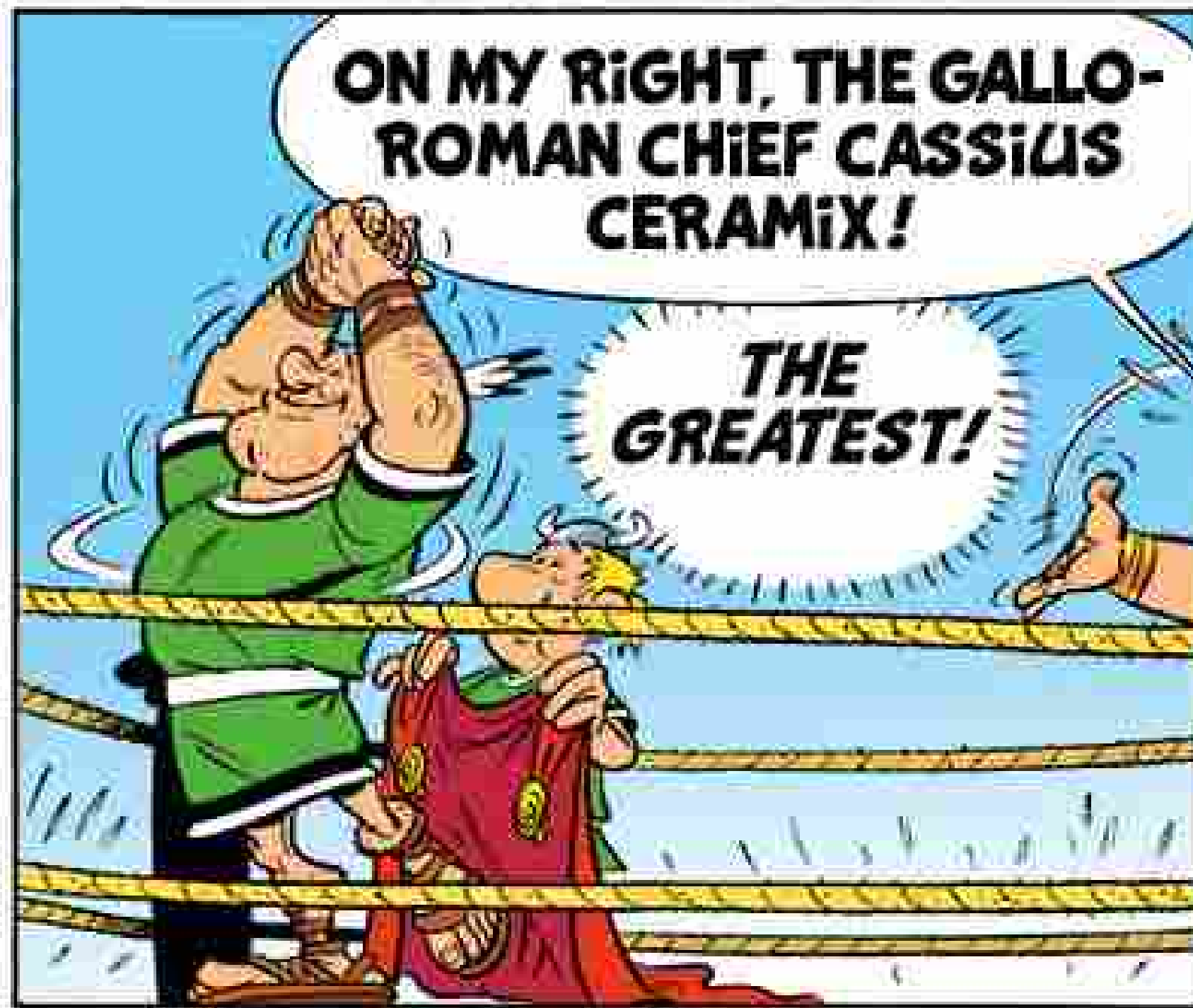
AND AS THE FIGHT AROUSES A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLIC INTEREST, NOMADIC BARBARIANS PUT UP THEIR SIDESHOWS NEARBY.

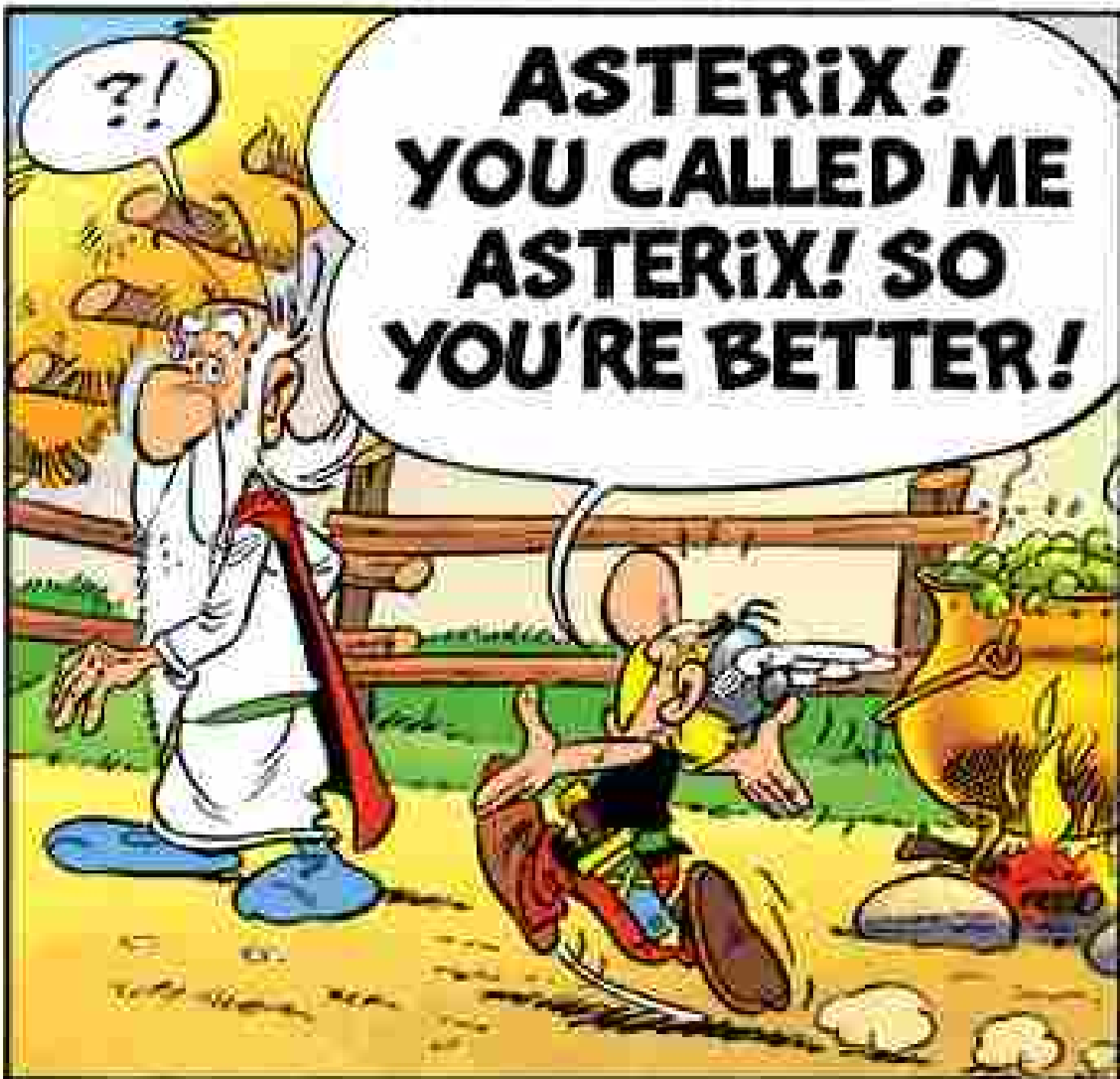
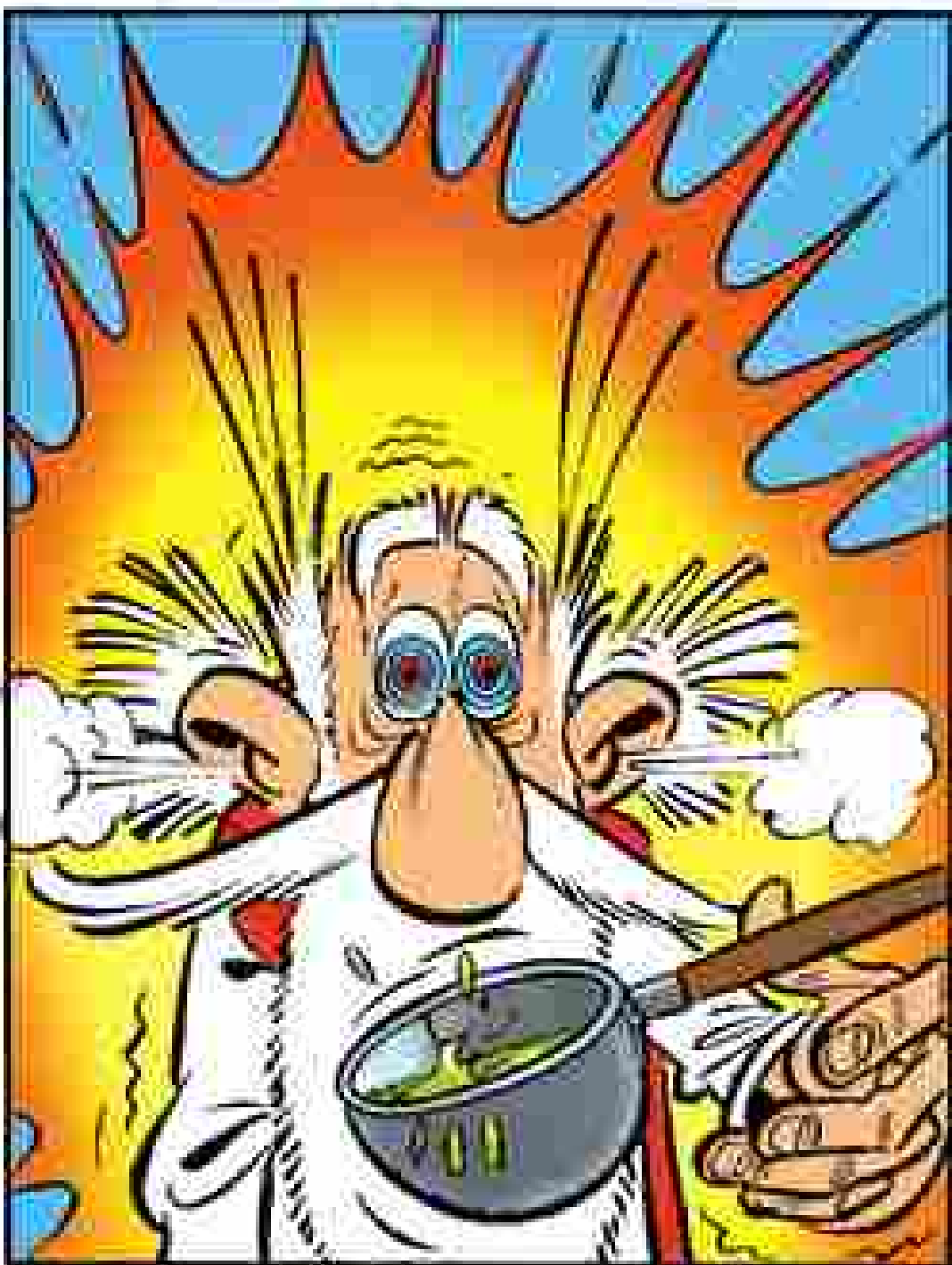
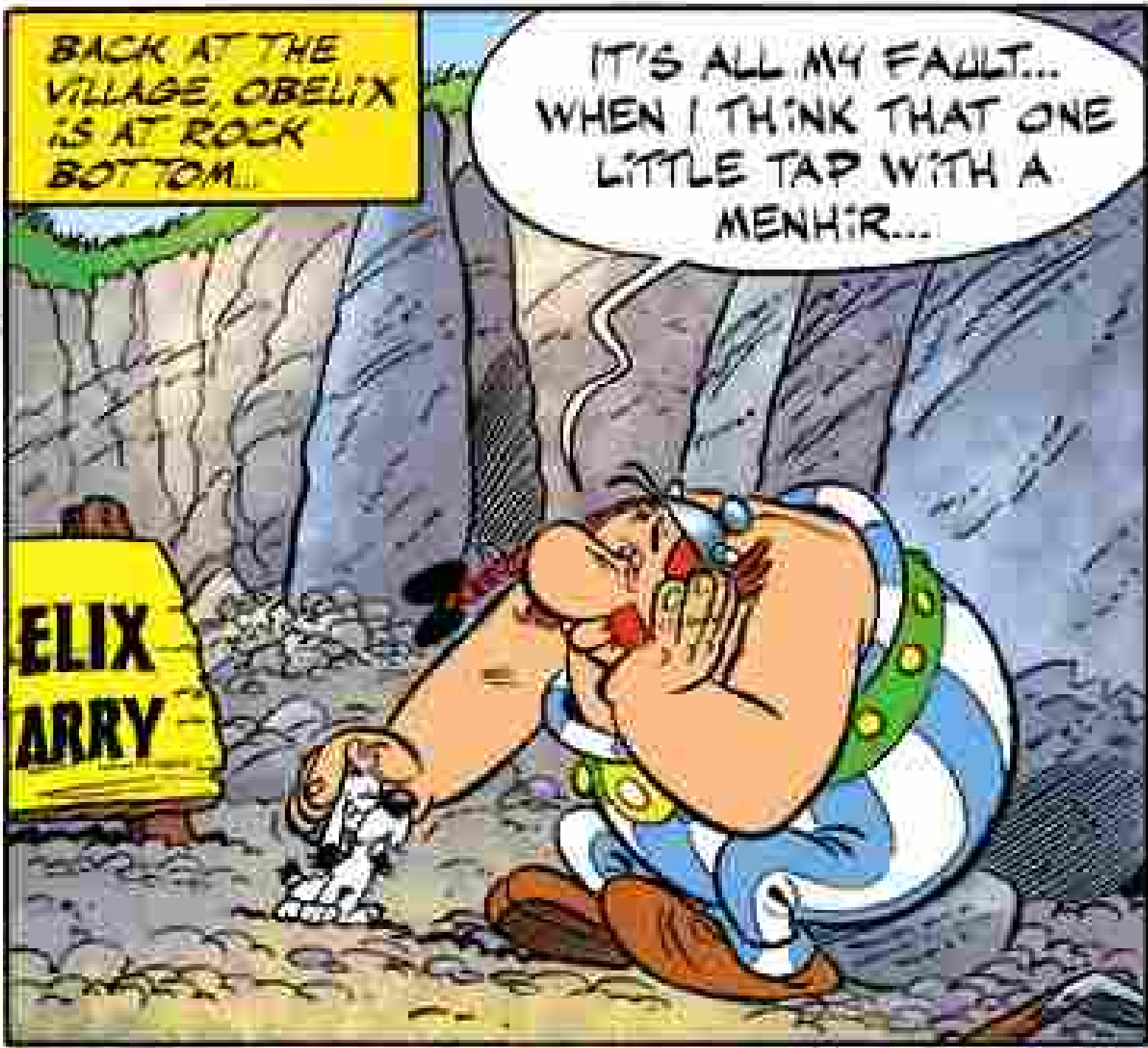


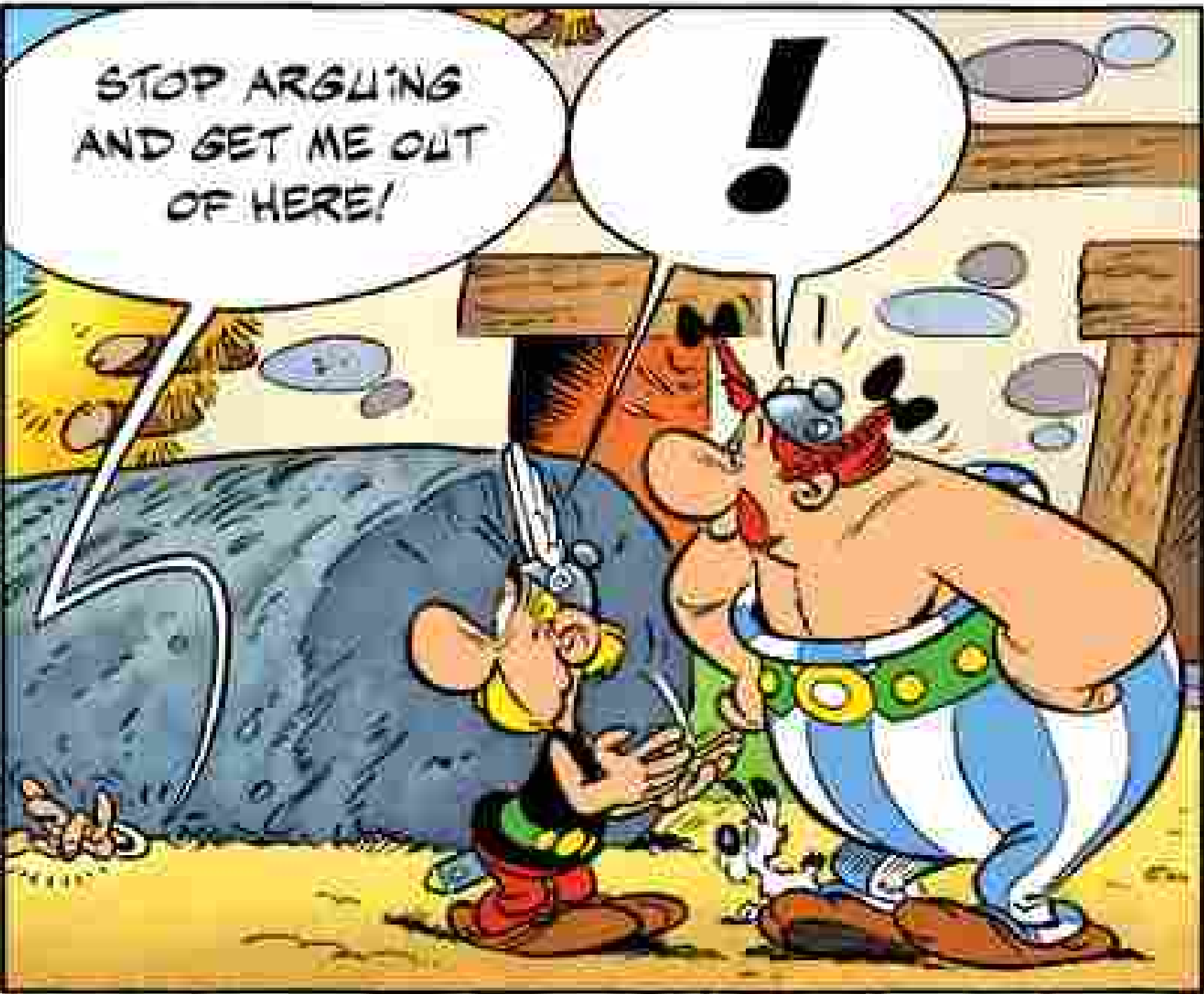
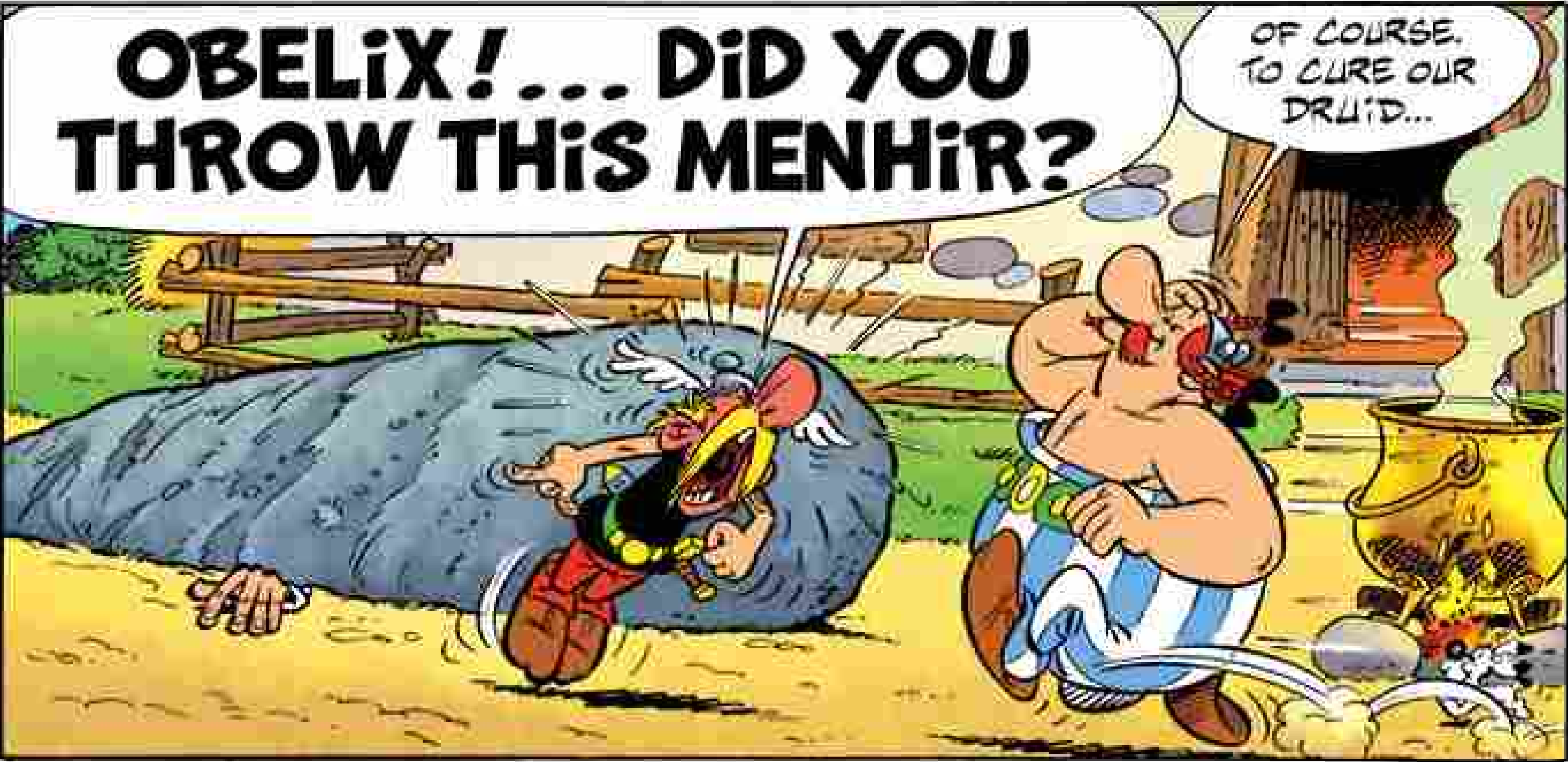


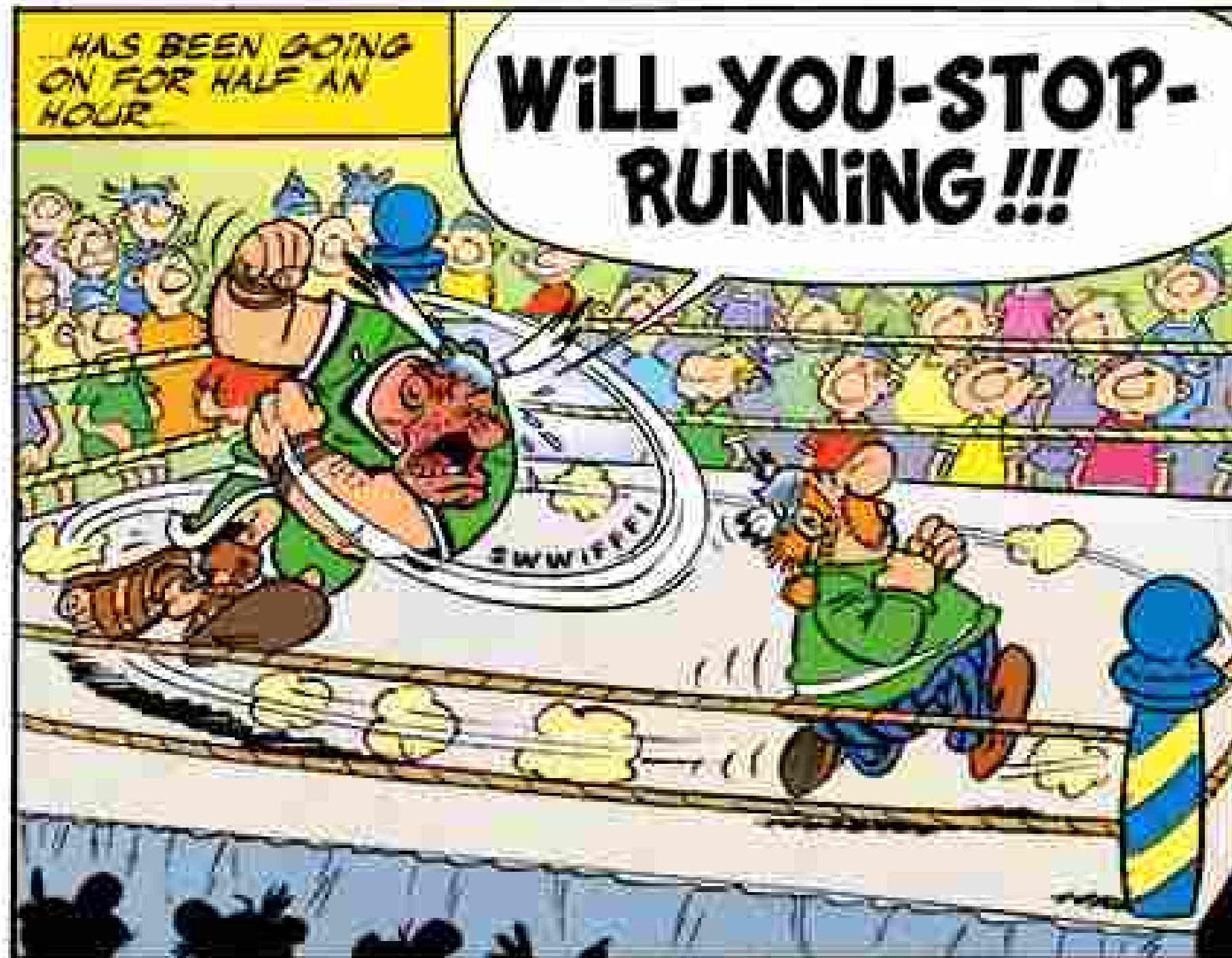


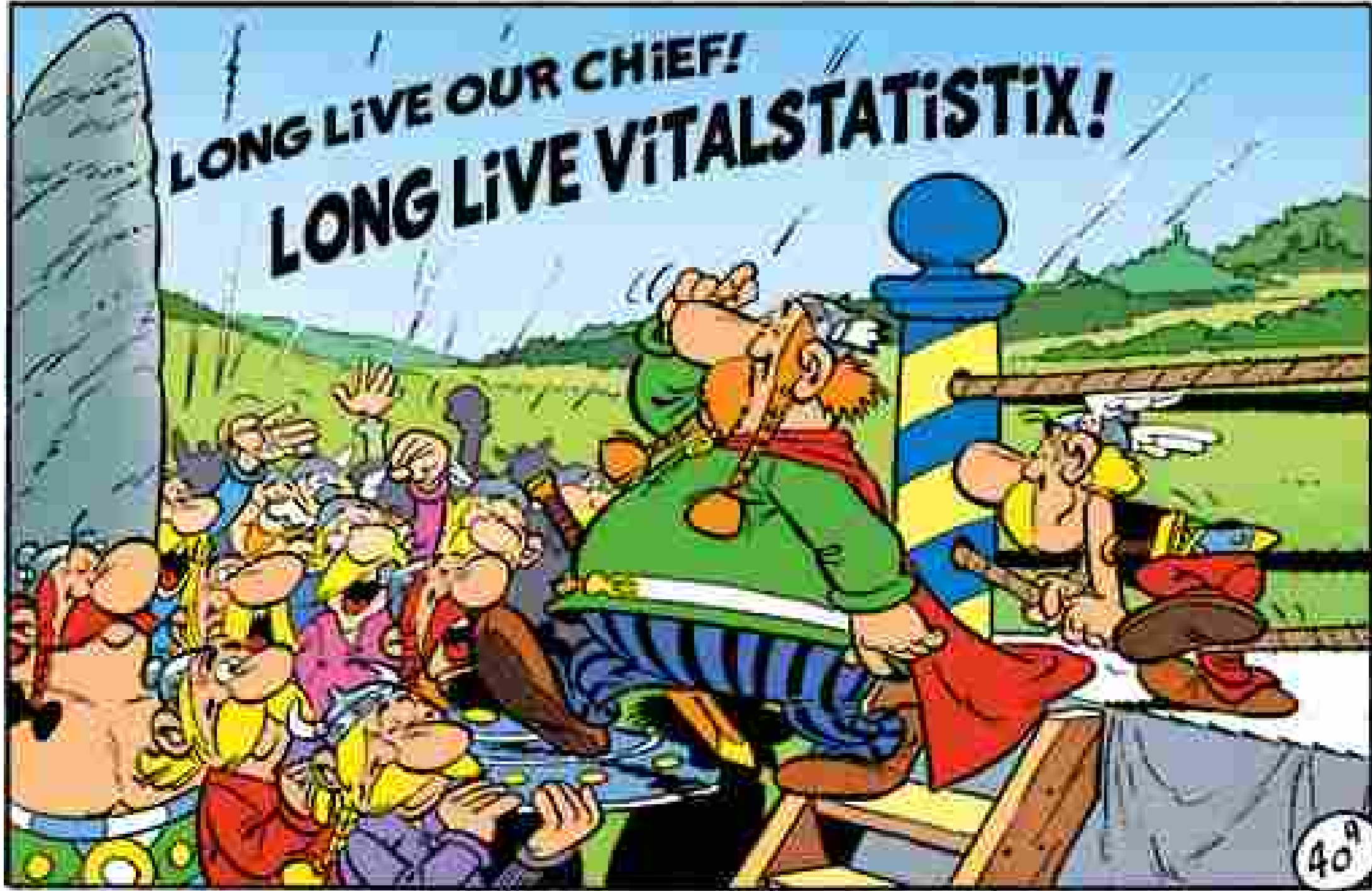
THIS FIGHT WILL GO ON UNTIL ONE OF THEM THROWS IN THE TOWEL! THE STAKES ARE AS FOLLOWS: THE WINNER RECEIVES THE HOMAGE OF VITAL... OF THE LOSER AND HIS TRIBE!



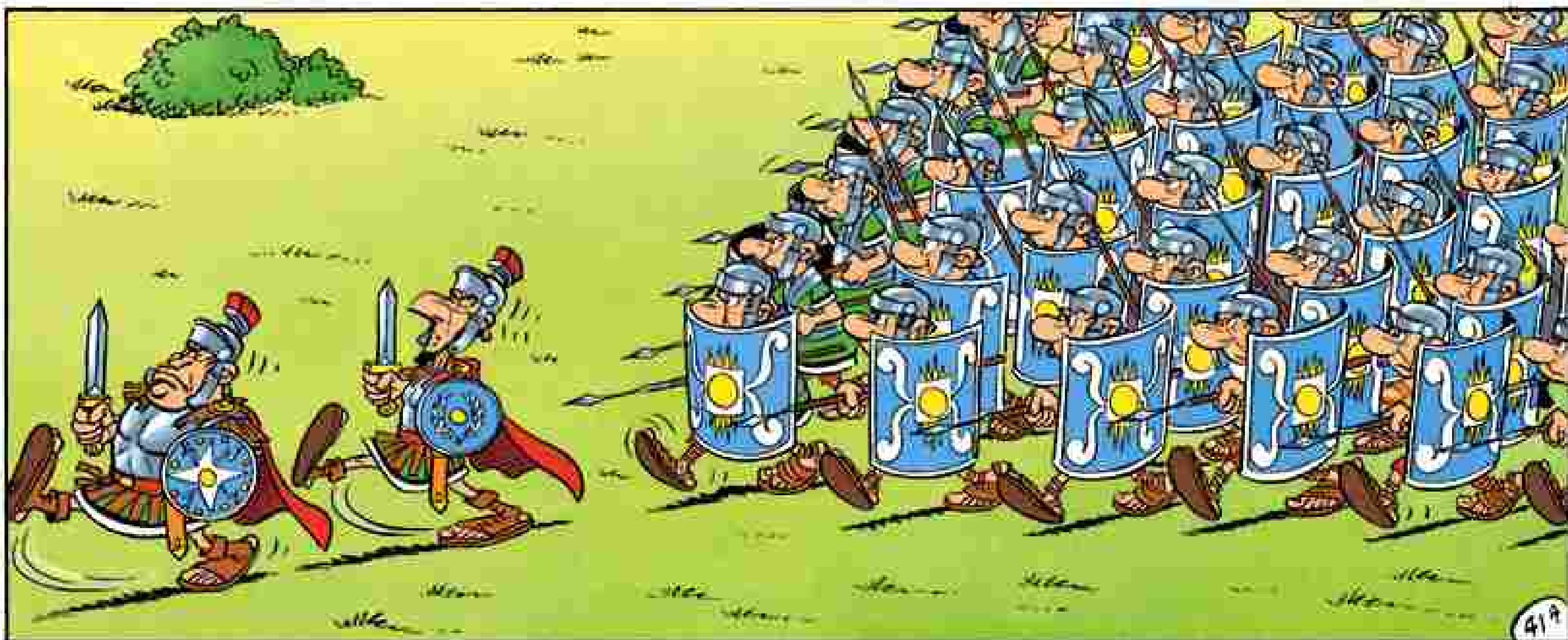








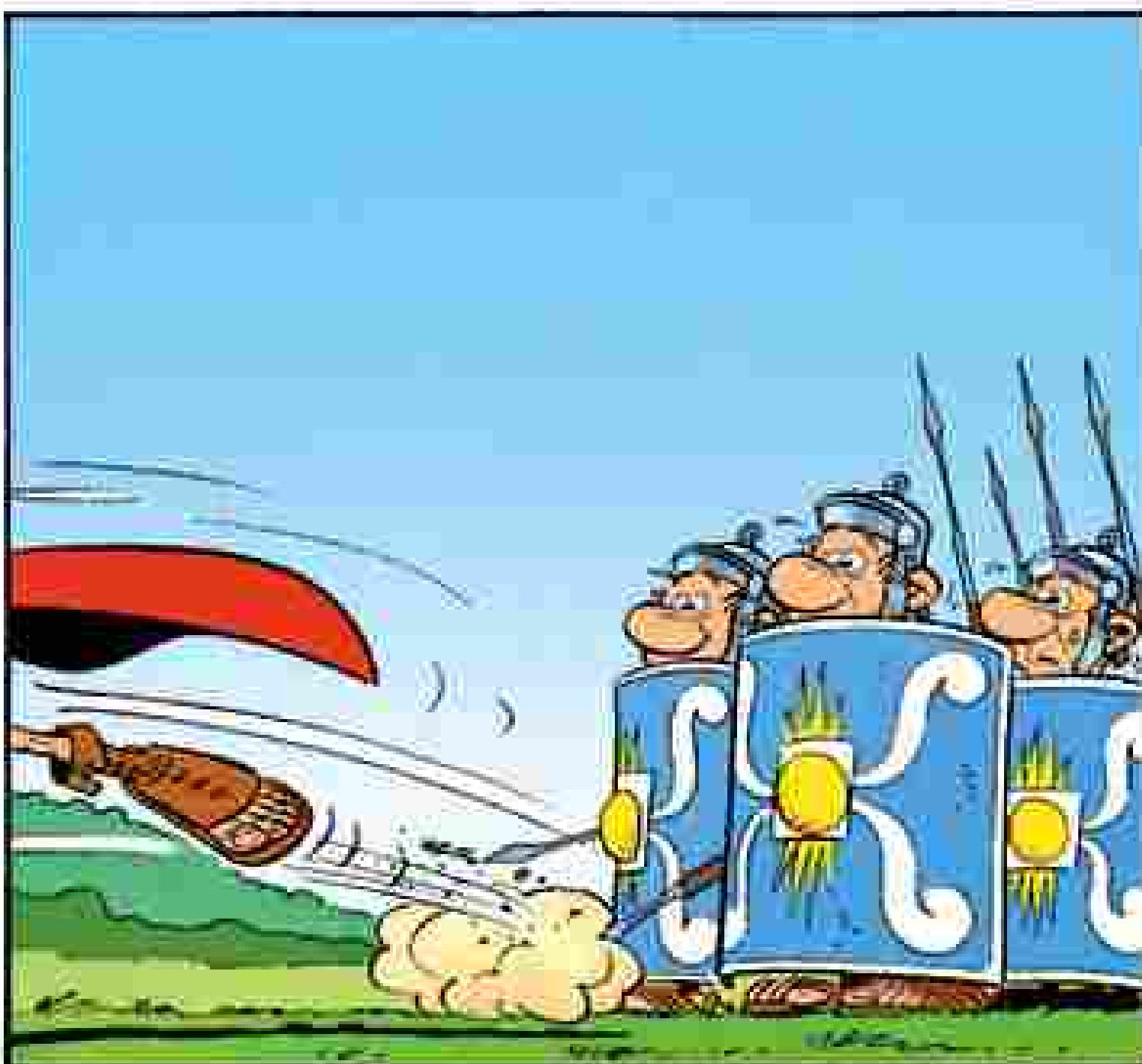
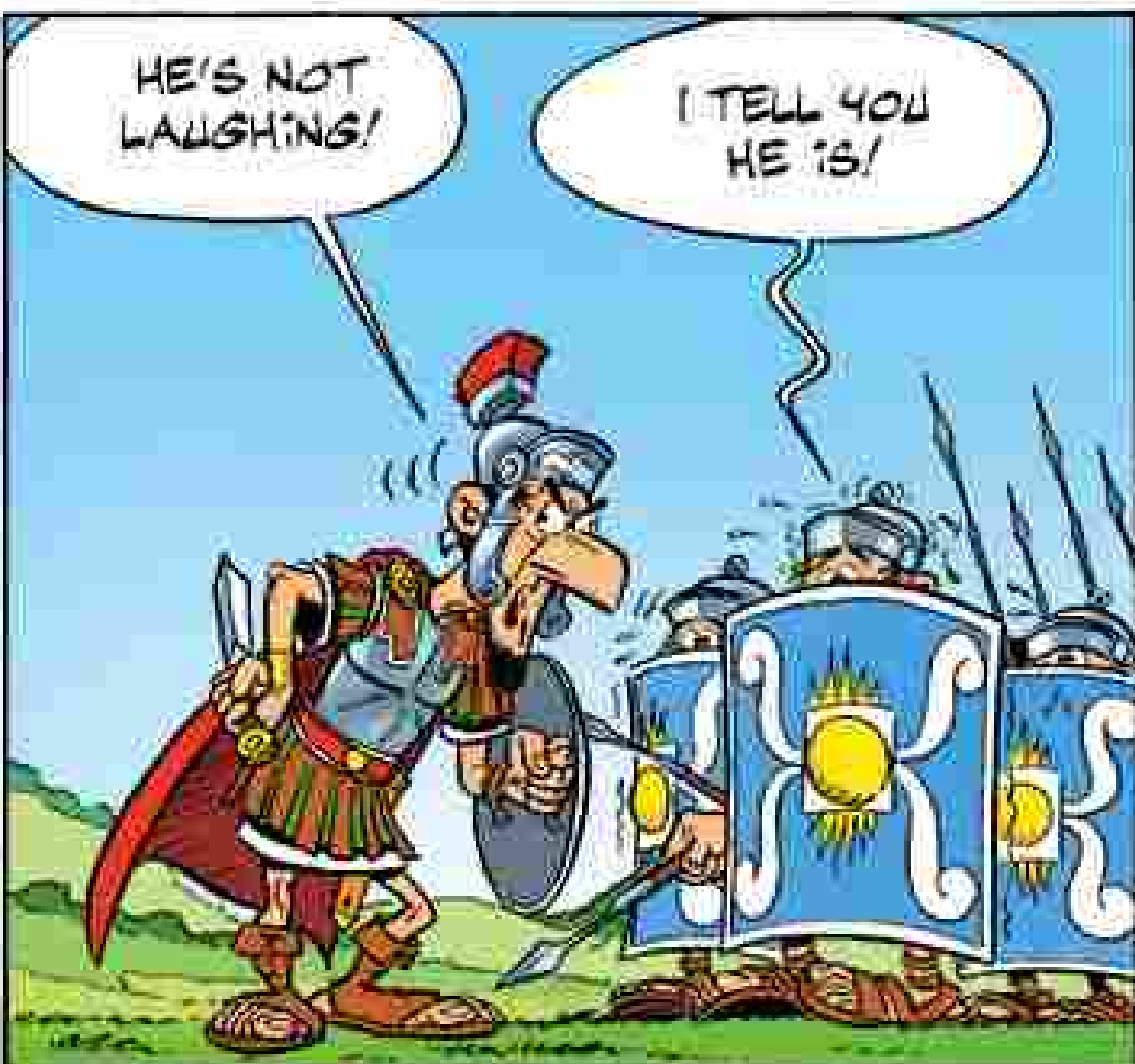
COMMANDED BY ITS OFFICERS THE ROMAN LEGION BEGINS TO CARRY OUT ITS IMPRESSIVE MANOEUVRES



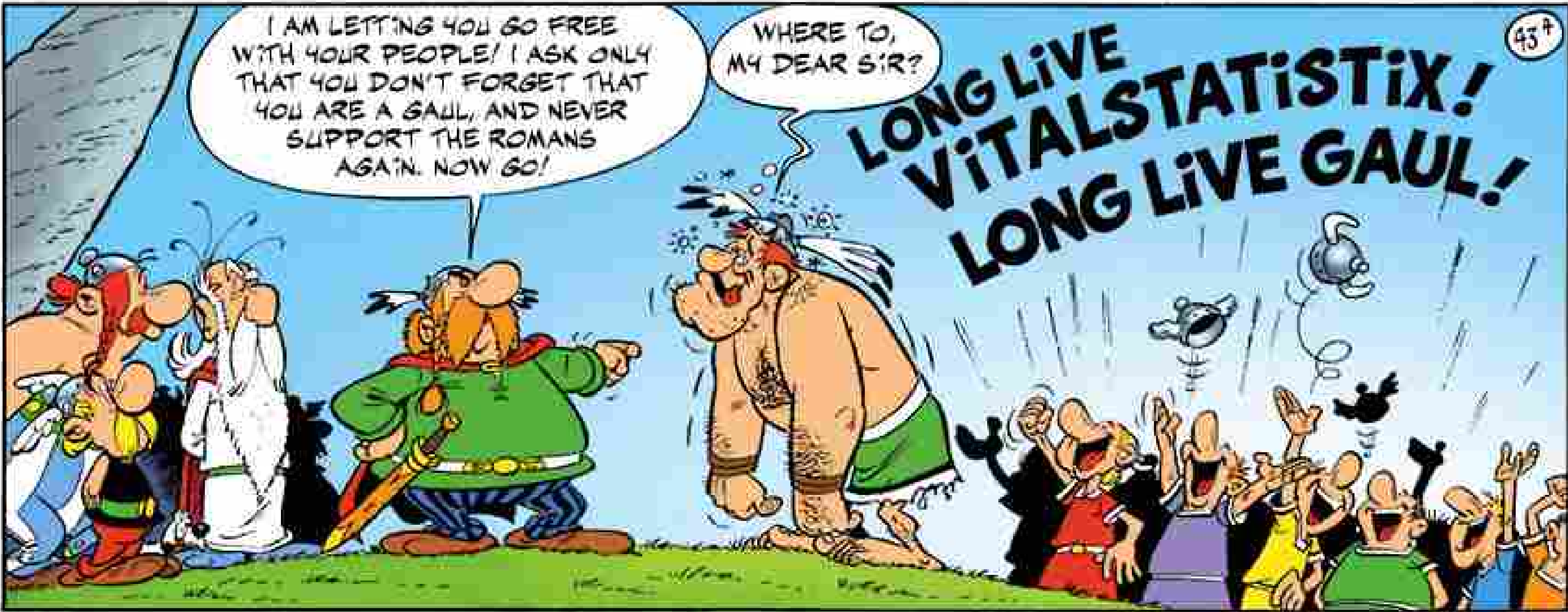
MEANWHILE, THE GAULS ARE WAITING

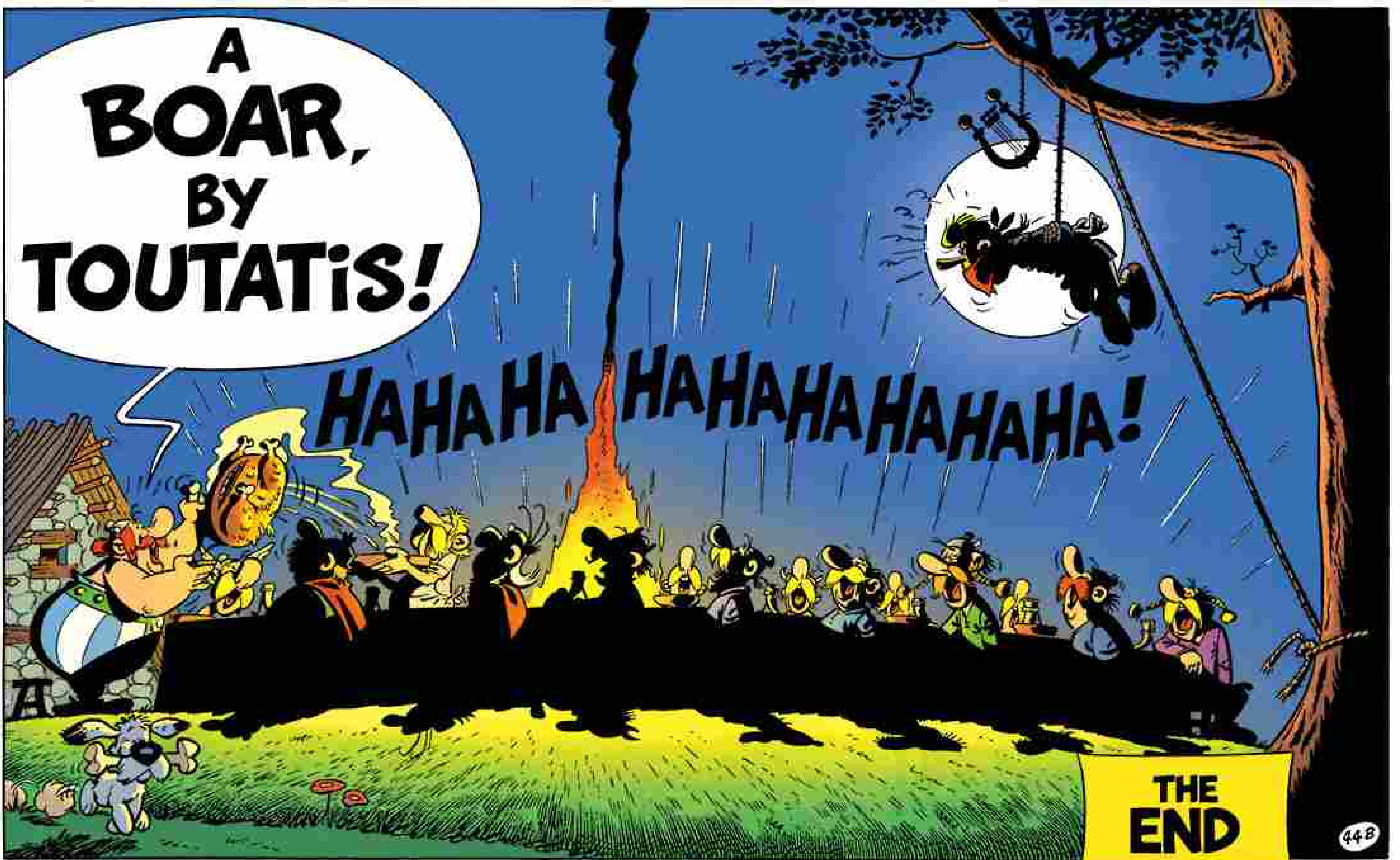
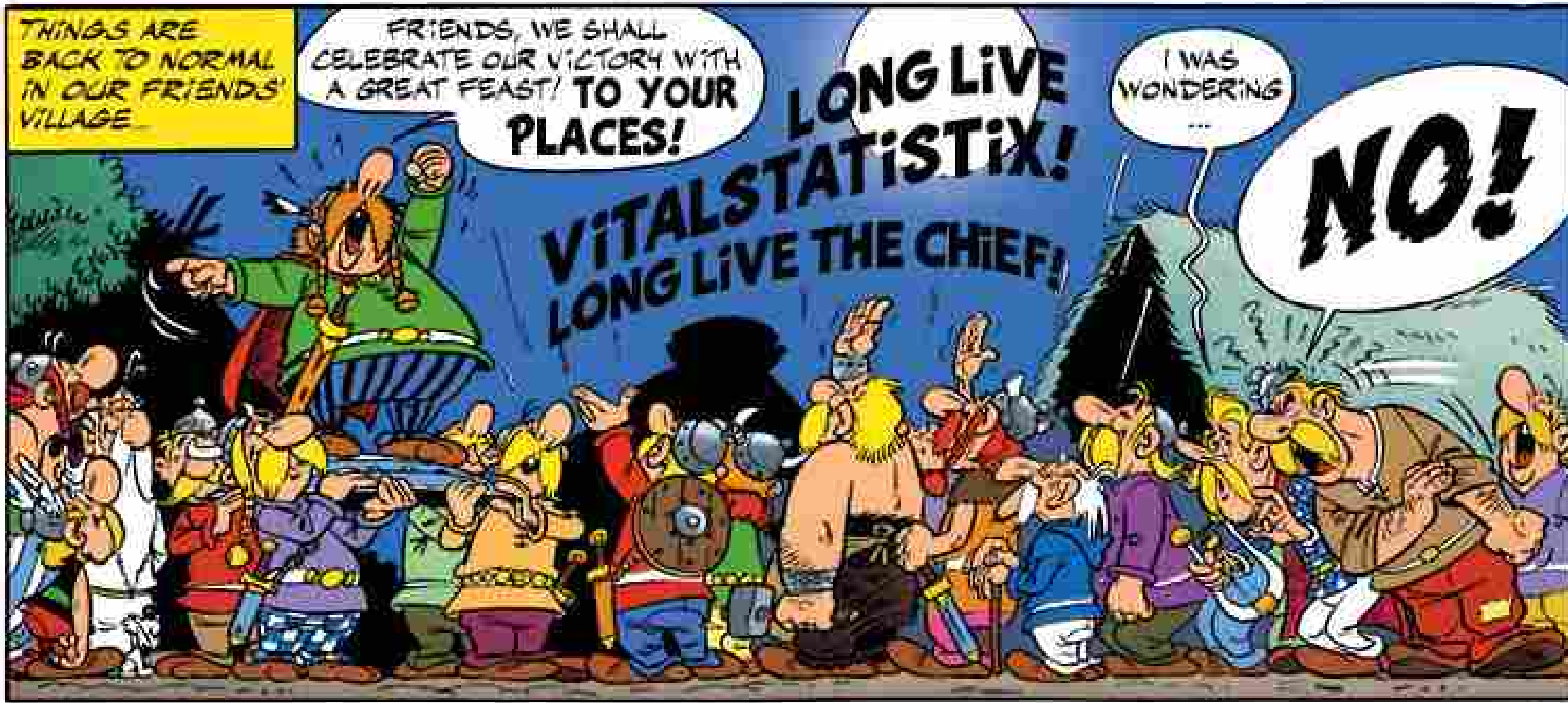


SUDDENLY...













I FEEL
A BIT WEAK,
GETAFIX ...

NO, OBELIX! YOU
ARE NOT HAVING ANY MAGIC
POTION! YOU KNOW VERY WELL
YOU FELL INTO THE CAULDRON
WHEN YOU WERE A BABY, AND
IT HAD A PERMANENT
EFFECT ON YOU!

A
collaborator in
ancient Gaul?
Chief Cassius
Ceramix has gone
over to the Roman
enemy. There's
something very fishy
going on, as Legionary
Infirmospurpus
discovers when he is
sent to spy on the Gauls
disguised as a crab apple
tree. But is that just a red
herring? And what about the
two concussed druids brewing
colourful potions? One way or
another, the fight for control
of the village between
Vitalstatistix and his rival is
bound to be a knockout.

